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JOHN JUNIPER, Esq.

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HISTORY

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JOHN JUNIPER, Esq.

ALIAS

JUNIPER JACK.

CONTAINING

HE BIRTH, PARENTAGE, AND EDUCATION, LIFE, ADVENTURES, AND CHARACTER

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THAT MOST WONDERFUL AND SURPRIZING
GENTLEMAN.

THE ADVENTURES OF A GUINEA.

VOL. III.

LONDON:
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CHAPTER I.

But before I proceed further, in giving this sublime title to the illustrious subject of this important history, it may not be improper to prove his right to it; in order to obviate the charge of levity, in a matter of such moment, too justly brought against this courteous age, in which every tinker and cobler, the instant he throws off his leather apron, is Vol. III.

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dubb'd an esquire.—If it should be say'd by any snarling critick, that I ought to have done this sooner; and by avoiding the offence, saved my readers the trouble of the excuse, I have only to say, what it will be well for him, if he can say also, in the same situation of self-correction, that it is never too late to mend.

In the first appropriations of cognominal additions, commonly called either nick-names, or titles, according to their import of honour or reproach, the word bero signified a destroyer, being never bestowed upon any man, till he had rendered himself famous by the destruction of his species.

Could it be necessary to adduce proof of a truth so notorious, I need only ask for what reason Achilles, Alexander, &c. &c. &c. had that title given to them? Now as Juniper Jack's whole life was one continued state of war with all mankind, I submit it to the judicious reader, whether he is not as well entitled to this honour-

honourable addition from the numbers he destroyed in private life, by reducing them to sell their houses and lands, and die of want, as if he had actually knocked out their brains in battle, and lay'd their habitations in ashes at the head of an army?—

The morning, then I fay, after our hero and his fellow-traveller arrived at Tork, the latter big with hope went to the theatre, to try the ground, promising to return to dinner with his friend, who in the mean while walked out to take a view of the town: but what was his surprize, when he came back, to find his room locked against him, and hear the tragedian talking aloud in the most violent transport of rage.

Apprehensive of some mischief, he knocked directly at the door, and not gaining ready admission, the other's attention being too much taken up to hear him, he burst in without more ceremony; where his surprize was increased to find B 2 him,

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him alone, standing in his shirt before the glass, and raving aloud, with his eyes fixed on the empty air, his face convulsed, his arms spread abroad, and every limb trembling, as in the extasy of madness.

Before he had time to ask the cause of what he saw, the madman, perceiving his figure in the glass, turned short round; and was running with open arms to embrace him; when mistaking his intention for the impulse of phrenzy, our hero slipped aside, as quick as thought, and catching up a stick felled him to the ground.

It is impossible to express the astonishment of the poor actor, at such an unexpected outrage. The stick was even raised to repeat the blow, which would in all probability have closed his tragedy, had he not arrested it by a plaintive cry, and instantaneous change in his looks, from madness to dismay.

His cries directly brought up, the people of the house, who had been alarmed before by his raving, some of whom lay'd hold of our hero, while the others raised the victim of his mistake, demanding with one voice, what had been the matter.

Our hero, who scarce knew more than they, answered, as soon as he could be heard, that what he had done was in his own defence, against his fellow-traveller, whom he had found in a violent sit of madness, under the impulse of which he would have fallen upon him, had he not saved himself by knocking him down.

The tragedian no sooner heard him say this, than all the resentment, with which he was threatening heaven and earth, instantly vanished. "Bravo! (he exclaimed in rapture) Bravo! my dearest friend. I thank you for this tribute to my tragick powers; and honour the sensibility that pay'd it, as much as I B 3 "glory

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES

" glory in their excellence, which such a testimony as this confirms for ever."

Then turning to the standers-by, "You need not hold the gentleman! (he continued) I am no longer afraid of him; neither am I mad; though I have been able to act madness to such perfection, as to deceive the friend of my bosom; as you are all witnesses; and have my permission to make known to all the world.

"I see you are at a loss to comprehend what has happened! I will therefore explain the affair to you, in few words.

"My profession then, gentlemen, is to represent the most illustrious characters struggling in the storms of sate; or, in other words, I am a tragedian; and being to play the sublime, and dissimulation cult part of Orestes, this evening, I was rehearing it here, when my friend entered; who was so struck by the force with which I acted the transports of

of madness, as to think me really mad.

" A most glorious mistake, which does

" me so great honour, as amply compen-

" fates for the hurt I have received."—
Saying which he advanced again to embrace his friend, who now readily met him
half way.

CHAP. II.

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THE matter being thus happily made up, and the people of the house withdrawn, Jack asked the Tragedian, what he had meant by saying he was to play that night; who answered, that on his going to the theatre, he had found the company all in the suds, the Lady Mayores having commanded the Distressed Mother for that evening, and the actor who always play'd Orestes, having hanged himself most fortunately, not an hour before; in consequence of which, on his announcing himself, the manager, well

B 4

remembering how great he had been in that part, when they rehearfed it together, most readily accepted his offer to play it for them; in which he did not doubt but he should come off with honour, short as the time was, after so signal a testimony as his friend had just borne to his powers; concluding with inviting him to fee this triumph of his abilities; for which purpose he had mentioned him to the whole company, as well as to the manager, in fuch terms, that they all longed to have the honour of kiffing his hands in the Green-room, and had obligingly accepted the invitation he had given them in his name, to fup with him that night after the play; when he would fee that the encomiums he had bestowed upon their way of living together, fell short of what it deserved.

Though Jack was fully sensible of the impudence of such a liberty as his companion had taken with him, he could not prevail upon himself to countermand the invitation,

invitation, so directly did it lead the way to his own scheme. However, to keep him within bounds as much as possible, he answered gravely, that he had done very wrong in making it without consulting him, as his money began to runs short; and it would be some time before he should receive a supply:

But weighty as this objection might-have seemed to another, the tragick, hero made light of it. "Think not of such paltry matters (said he.) This inight opens the mines of Peru, to your friend, whose greatest enjoyment of his good fortune will be to share it with you. Nor need you be alarmed at the expence. I'll take care that it shall not exceed the bounds of prudence. Our's are banquets of the mind. We meet not to gluttonize; like citizens at a charity-feast. Mirth, wit, and hapmines are our choicest fare."

Though his friend gave but little credit to this account, even that little was lef
B 5 fened

LIFE AND ADVENTURES

fened, when he heard him order a supper fufficient to feed a troop of hungry dragoons. Imagining, however, that he might have forgotten himself in the hurry of his spirits, he asked how many guests he had invited; and being answered, a dozen: "You must certainly have been " mistaken then (say'd he) in your bill of " fare, and thought you were catering " for your recruits. People, like your " friends, who meet only to feast the mind, can never have occasion for such an heavy meal." Then turning to the landlord, he demanded at how much an head he could afford a light genteel supper for a dozen or fourteen people; and being answered, for half a crown, ordered him to provide one accordingly, against the play should be over that evening.

"Supper for fourteen!—at half a crown a head!—(fay'd the landlord) To be fure, fir! that may do very well for fome people! But I beg leave to ask who your guests are to be, that "I may

"I may make my provision accordingly; for if they are the players, as I pre"Iume from what this gentleman say'd
"just now, of his being of that profes"sion, I must provide both dinner and
supper in one, which will make but
ordinary fare at that price; those gentry
usually keeping themselves so sharp,
I suppose to whet their wits, that when
they sit down to eat thus at free cost,
they generally take enough at once, to
make up for the short commons of the
week before.

"You must do the best you can (re"plied Jack, stissing his laughter as well,
"as he could) but by the account this

gentleman gives of his friends, that
must be sufficient; nor will I give

more, or pay for any thing else, par
ticularly any wine, that I do not myself expressly order."—A caution,
which his companion's enquiring if the
landlord's Burgundy and Champaigne were
good, suggested to him.

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CHAP.

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CHAP. III.

THOUGH Juniper was not much troubled with that unfashionable weakness, called Modesty; he felt himself somewhat embarrassed at his first enterance among a set of people to whose manners he was so much a stranger. His friend, however, soon helped him out.

Advancing to the Manager, "This, "fir (fay'd he, taking Juniper by the hand) is my friend! my Pylades! whom I have the honour to introduce to you. And this, my dear friend, is Mr. Castpart, "the able manager of this celebrated company." This introductionwas sufficient. The stranger had no sooner pay'd his compliments to the sovereign of the mimick state, than all the subjects gathered round him, and selicitated themselves on the honour of his acquaintance, a complaisance that won his heart; as he little suspected

the motive from which it proceeded. The fact was! His friend had represented him to them that morning, as an easy-tempered youth of immense fortune, who from mere attachment to him, had taken that ramble; and whose purse he had entirely at his command.

The business of the stage demanding the tragedian's attention, Juniper was left by himself, to make his remarks upon the company. But he remained not long alone. One of the nymphs, she who play'd Hermione, observing that he eyed her in a particular manner, directly joined him, and with the most easy familiarity fell into chat; in the course of which she took opportunities to throw such soft and significant glances at him, as fixed him firmly her's.

The applause which the new player received from the publick, over-pay'd all his endeavours; though to do him justice, he strained every nerve to please them, out-beroding Herod, and tearing every passion As for Juniper, he was too much engaged otherwise, to take any notice of him. The fair Hermione, who had marked him for her own, continued their conversation during the intervals between her being on the stage, to which she gave such a turn, as lest him no attention for any other object; though his friend never failed to come to him at every exit, to ask his opinion, or rather his applause, which he gave him as lavishly as he could wish, to get the sooner rid of his company.

When the play was ended, our young gallant handed his fair acquaintance to his inn, whither she assured him, and perhaps with greater truth than always attended her assurances, she went solely upon his account; having positively refused Mr. Buskin, which, by the bye though, was not quite so true.

The

The conversation was kept up through the whole evening in a vein of wit, mirth, and revelry, equally new, and agreeable to the entertainer; particularly the part borne by the females, who, while they gave into all the licentiqueness of the men, still preserved an appearance of decency, that prevented it from giving disgust.

Juniper's thoughts were so inflamed by his conversation with Hermione, who had play'd all her batteries upon him, that he could not get to seep till far in the morning; in consequence of which he lay a bed so late, that Buskin was obliged to go to rehears a without seeing him; a compliment which he returned, by repairing, immediately after breakfast, to Hermione; who not being to play that evening, had invited him to dine, and spend the day with her.

Their meeting produced nothing but common occurrences (except it should be thought uncommon that it really produced duced nothing at all; the nymph being all tenderness, the swain all rapture.) But, as she did not think proper to give that rapture scope so soon, she had invited a female friend to be of the party, whose presence might keep him within bounds.

CHAP. IV.

HE expence at which her young inamorato had entertained his comany the night before, and his genteel address confirming the representation made of him by his friend Buskin, this prudent and good lady resolved to make a breach between them, that she might have the plucking of the goofe entirely to herfelf

For this purpose she took an occasion, as if accidentally, to ask her guest how long they had been acquainted; and, on his telling her, expressed the greatest surprife, prise, dropping hints at the same times of Buskin's having say'd, that their acquaintance was of much longer standing, and established by many services on his side.

Juniper, as may naturally be supposed, instantly took fire at an infinuation fo ingratefully falle, and what he thought worst of, which might injure him in the opinion of his fair friend. Thinking himfelf therefore no longer obliged to keep any measures with a man capable of such baseness, he directly nformed her of the commencement, and every other circumstance of their connexion, forgetting only the real motive of his own generofity; at every particular of which, she lifted up her hands and eyes to Heaven, with ejaculations of aftonishment and abhorrence, which appeared to be so great, that it was some time, after he had concluded, before she had power to speak; when, as if recollecting herfelf, she fetched an heavy figh, and turned the conversation to something

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thing else, nor could be prevailed upon to say another word about him all the rest of the evening; a manner of acting that had more effect than any thing she could have say'd.

On Juniper's return to his inn, at night, he had the pleasure to hear, that his fellow-traveller was not yet come home; upon which he went directly to bed to avoid an explanation till the next morning, his heart not being as yet sufficiently hackneyed in the ways of man, to turn him into the street at such an hour.

On their meeting at breakfast, the Tragedian was so full of his own affairs, that
he took no notice of the coldness with
which his late friend received him; but,
without giving him time to speak, proceeded to tell him, that in consequence of
the unparalleled applause he had met the
night before, though it lost half its welcome, on account of his not being present
to share in it, the Manager had actually
applied to him to engage for the season.

" And

"And I prefume you have closed with him," (said Juniper dryly).

"No! (answered the actor) I was not in such haste as that neither! At

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" least till I should confult with you.

" Can you believe it? He had the con-

" science to offer me only two guineas a

" week, though I instanced, in support

" of my demand of ten, that Barry, with

" whom I hoped he would not put me

" in comparison, as I mentioned him

" only because in my cast, had so much."

"And what do you mean to do, in

" case he should not come up to your

" terms ?- Added Juniper."

" Why aye ! (replied the Tragedian)

" that is the question,-To take! or not

" to take it! That's the question!-

"Whether I had not better enjoy the ge-

" nerolity of my friend, a little longer,

to make my merits still more known to

" the publick; when-if he fhould re-

" fule to come to my terms! why "then-

" then-I believe-I must e'en."-Take his! (interposed Juniper) who in spite of his refentment was no longer able to suppress his laughter at the attitude of deliberation into which the actor threw himself. to weigh this important point. His right foot advanced—his head declined on his left shoulder-the fore-finger of his right hand extended on his fore-head---the thumb on the tip of his nose—and his left hand supporting his right elbow) Take his, and that, as foon as you " can! for I absolutely disclaim all farther " connection with you." Unexpected as this stroke was, the tragedian was too well accustomed to struggle with adverse fortune to be disheartened by it, till he saw the landlord bring in his bill, as Juniper had ordered the night before. "Eh! " (fay'd he) How? What's the meaning of all this?" with an horogeneous

" Going

[&]quot;The meaning of it is; (answer'd "Juniper gravely) that I am going "away."

"Going away? (replied Buskin) with"out waiting to see me settled; or even
"consulting me,"

" And pray, my good Sir! (returned " Juniper) why should I consult you? "Or, what is it to me, whether you are " fettled or not? Though I should think " a man, who has had the mines of Peru " opened to him fo lately, cannot be at " a loss already. But, be that as it may, " if, because I pitied your hunger and "nakedness, fed, clad, and brought you " thus far, you imagine I must encum-" ber myself with such an unworthy bur-" then for ever, you will find yourself " out in your calculation; and that I " can shake you off as lightly as I took " you up. From this moment I leave " you to your fate; nor will ever trou-" ble myself with a farther thought about " you."

The manner in which this was spoken, convincing the Tragedian, that nothing was to be done by fair means, he resolved

to try another game. "Is it possible "(faid he, advancing up to him with a "fighting face) that you can think I will "put up with such base usage? To run "away from me in this manner, after preventing me from going to London; "and bringing me thus far out of my way, meerly to gratify your humour "for rambling?"

But in the world he could not have pitched upon a more improper man for popping fuch a part upon. "Base usage! "you scoundre!! (returned Juniper, hitting him at the same instant a blow on the temple, that would have made Broughton himself shake his ears) I'll make you take care whom you use such words to another time."

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CHAP. V.

THE flounce with which he fell to the ground, alarming the landlord, who had flood liftening at the door, after he had left his bill, he rushed in to prevent farther mischief, when he found the fallen hero still on the floor, his fear of the rising blow having hindered him from even attempting to get up.

But no sooner did he see help at hand, than rising as well as he was able: "Bear "witness, sir (say'd he) of the condition in which you find me. If there is justice in this land, I will not let such a russian go unpunished."

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"Heh! — What's the matter now? "(returned the landlord) Have you been "rehearling again?"

This word instantly gave Juniper his cue. "Really, fir (fay'd he, as com-

" posedly as if nothing had happened) I " begin to fear the poor man is actually " out of his senses. He has been all the " morning ranting some stuff or other out " of his plays; but I did not mind him " till after you quitted the room, when " advancing upon me, with his mouth all " covered with foam, like a mad dog, " his foot tripped against fomething in " the vehemence of his action, and he fell " against the corner of the table, which " has hurt his temple in the manner you " fee. I would have helped him up; but, " as I am persuaded he is mad, I did " not choose to venture within his reach, " for fear he might do me a mischief, as " he is fo much bigger than I am."

This was out-acting the actor so effectually, that he was not able to make any reply, conscious, that, as he had no witness of the affault, the word of his affailant would outweigh his; especially as it was supported by the former affair. Staring at his conqueror, therefore, for some minutes with astonishment, he defired

fired the landlord to go down, faying there was no farther occasion for his prefence; but Juniper being resolved to play out his game, insisted on his staying; saying that he would not run the hazard of being left alone with such a mad-man.

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The infulting fneer with which he fay'd this, was more fevere even than his late violence. "You well know I am "not a mad-man (returned the tragedian, "shaking his head, with a forrowful look) "but it is no matter. I have a word

" or two, though, to speak to you on par-

" ticular business; and hope you will not " refuse me the honour of an hearing."

But all he could fay was in vain. Juniper infifted inexorably, that he could have
no business with him, improper for all the
world to hear; and that he would never
trust himself alone with him again for a
single minute; observing to the landlord,
that it was necessary for them to be on
their guard, as his eyes were beginning to
roll in the same frightful manner as before.

Vol. III. C This

This was too much to be borne off the " 'Tis well, fir! (fay'd the tra-" gedian, putting on his hat, with an " haughty air.) You have taken your "cue very well; I fee plainly enough " that brimstone Hermione is at the bot-" tom of all this. She wants to have " you to herself; but I'll drive the shat-" tered, painted, patched-up harridan " to another market with her mellow " pears." - Saying which, he strutted away, without waiting for a reply, to close with the manager, before this mishap should come to his ears, lest he should take advantage of it, as he must know that he was now at his mercy.

The satisfaction which his fair friend felt on her lover's giving so readily into her design, may be easily conceived. She understood her business too well though, to discover it. On the contrary, she affected to be concerned for the difficulties to which it might expose the discarded Buskin; and even went so far as

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give him; that is, as far as it was possible to forgive such base ingratitude; a style of mediation, that in reality only widened the breach it seemed meant to make up.

Her motives for acting in this manner were certainly judicious. Though the was refolved to continue, as fhe had made the breach, the wished not to be known to have had any hand in it. It was not her interest, by any means, to give the enemies, whom the was fenfible envy of her fuccess would raise, such an handle against her. This conduct beside had an appearance of benevolence; a virtue fo transcendently lovely in itself, and so peculiarly congenial to the fensibility of the female heart, that those who give up all pretence to the characteristick virtue of their fex, always endeavour to palliate their frailty with a show of this. When Juniper, therefore, went with her to the theatre in the evening, she interposed so warmly as to effect a reconciliation, fo far far as mutual civility; certain that she had put an insurmountable bar in the way of any closer intercourse.

The scene into which our hero was now introduced, suited his taste so exactly, that he had not a wish to change it. It would be a presumption, of which I am incapable, justly high as is my sense of my own abilities, to attempt lifting up the mysterious veil, that shades the interiour occonomy of the theatric life; after it has been so ably and faithfully held forth to view, by the inimitable Scaron; whose description, as if drawn by inspiration, sits every company of players, that ever was, or ever will be.

This, however, only made the variety still more pleasing to him. He lived, as one of themselves; and as he was free from the anxiety, and fear of hunger, or perhaps the hunger itself, which would sometimes lower their spirits, in spite of all their efforts to elude thought, he quasted from the top of the cup, without tasting

tasting the dregs, which imbittered the bottom.

Not that their conversation continued long to be agreeable to him. As soon as the novelty of the manner was worn off, the repetition of the matter grew cloying; being nothing more than scraps of plays got by rote in their profession, and retailed upon every occasion, without the mixture of one original thought to give a relish to the hotehpotch.

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The other circumstances however, made amends for this falling off, at his time of life. His particular object, indeed, Hermione would have observed, at least for some time, the same reserve, as at their first meeting; but she soon found it impossible, without running the risque of driving him into some of the nets, which were spread for him, on every side, by her sister nymphs of the drama. But still, she acted the struggle between virtue and desire, with such address, as to make her yielding appear the effect of passion, while

while to heighten the favour, and preferve his respect, which she knew to be the best preservative of love, she affected to make a mystery of their intercourse, under a pretence of preserving a reputation, which had been given to the winds, before he was born.

Nor were her motives for this conduct merely mercenary. Though her first advances to the connection had been in the train of profession, by the most whimfical fate, it had so fallen out, that she, who had received the addresses of every rank of life, from the poet, to the prince; and even fet theatrical monarchs together by the ears, without feeling the least return of their passion, was now, in the wane of life, when the bigb-day, of her blood was past, and youth could no longer be pleaded in excuse of her levity, fallen fairly in love with a boy; and even dreamed in her dotage of engroffing him entirely to herself for ever.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

IN the mean time, though Juniper was immoveably resolved to keep himself concealed, being fensible that the moment he entrusted his secret to any one, he fhould no longer be his own mafter, he foon found it necessary to set on foot some account or other, in order to refute the infinuations of his friend Buskin, that he was a merchant's clerk, who had robbed his master, and ran away with his money.

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For this purpose, he told his dear Hermione, in proof of his confidence, and under the strictest injunctions of secrely, as the furest way to have it immediately propagated, that he was the only fon of one of the richest planters, on the island of Jamaica, from whence he had been fent for his education; and that having had a love-affair, which had betrayed itfelf, with the daughter of his father's cor-

C 4 respondent, respondent, under whose care he was, in England, he had thought it necessary to elope, till he should hear from home, whither he had written, as soon as ever the thing had happened.

For this story in particular, he had also a particular reason; though the thought had been first suggested to him, by his friend Macskane's having mentioned that, as one of the only two justifiable causes for a man of honour's concealing his name; as the attentive reader undoubtedly remem-His passion for going on the stage was now become fo ftrong, that he could refift it no longer. He, therefore, thought this story the most likely way to make fuch a step seem only a frolick of youth; especially, as he should take it before any failure in his finances should raise a suspicion of its proceeding from necessity; as it would also account for his accepting the emoluments of the profession, when the pinching moment should arrive, which inexhaustible as he had thought his purse,

purse, in the beginning, he could now see advancing toward him with hasty strides, so heavy were the expences he was hourly at among his present acquaintances.

Nor was this the only piece of finesse he practifed on the occasion. To give fuch a frolick still a better colour, he never hinted it, in the most distant manner, even to Hermoine; till one morning after rehearfal, as he was fitting in the green-room among the players, when they were talking of their approaching benefits, " what should you think (fay'd " he, with a smile, chucking her fondly " under the chin) if I should play Bays " for you?" a compliment so flattering to her pride, as well as advantageous to her purse, was not only received with transport by her, but also met with such applause from all present, that he suffered himself to be prevailed upon to give her a politive promile of it.

The interval, though longer than he could have wished, hung not heavy upon

his hands. Some specimens, which he had occasionally given of his talents in the sublime art of mimickry, had raised such an opinion of him, that all the players, particularly the semales, doubled their assiduity in paying him compliments, in hope of engaging him to play for their benefits also: an hope, which he had the address to keep alive, without making a direct promise to any, though he secretly received favours, in support of it, from them all.

The intimacy that was now cultivated with him by all the players, shewed him the profession in a new light; and gave him the fairest opportunity for indulging the favourite passion of his heart: one and all in order to ingratiate themselves and supplant their rivals in his regard, giving him the secret histories of the rest, the incidents always coloured, however unnecessarily as the truth was the worst that could be say'd, with malevolence and envy; he play'd them off against each other

other with such art, that without ever being suspected to have any hand in the matter, he kept the whole house in a continual ferment; not even his *Hermione* escaping the shafts of his wicked wit.

The information which he received in this manner, would add a curious supplement, to that heap of crimes and infamy for which a celebrated historian has raked up the annals of the western world, to form, what in his great philanthropy, he is pleased to call an History of the Human Heart. But such materials are too coarse for the delicacy of this work. I have therefore given the anecdotes, compiled by our hero on this occasion, to as celebrated a female writer of sentimental novels; a species of literary productions to which they are peculiarly adapted.

Having passed the time in this agreeable manner till the day for his performing arrived, he play'd to a most crowded and brilliant audience, whom the report of a young gentleman of fortune's act-

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ing for his amusement, drew together, when he received such applause as perhaps was never before bestowed upon a first essay.

But dearly did the rest of the players pay for his success. He held up their several peculiarities to ridicule, with such irresistible force, that it was a long time before they could show their faces upon the stage, even in the most serious characters, or scenes of deepest distress, without raising a general laugh in the audience; the severest mortification a player can possibly meet.

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CHAP. VII.

In the mean while, though he continued his intimacy with Hermione, to whom he had as strong an attachment as his heart was capable of, he was far from being so constant to her charms as her passion could have made her wish. But she was too well convinced of the truth of Lady Easy's maxim, to think of reclaiming him by reproaches or restraint. On the contrary, in the true spirit of poetick licence, she gave the liberty she took; and winked at what it would have done her no service to see; whereby she not only avoided a breach, but also preserved his esteem.

In gratitude, therefore, for the various civilities which he received from the other actresses, he could not refuse performing for their benefits; though, to keep peace at home, he told *Hermione*, that he did it solely

folely from a principle of justice, to make them amends for the ridicule he had brought upon them; but he firmly refused to play for any man whomsoever, to give the greater air of gallantry to his playing.

His fuccess in other comick characters. for he never attempted to touch tragedy, though not inconfiderable, fell far fhort of that which had attended his first esfay in Bayes; and proved the effential difference in the talents necessary to form a minick and a player. Wherever vivacity, grimace, or trick could be introduced, he kept the house in a continual roar; but where it was necessary to enliven the ease of genteel character, and give grace to fentiment, his falling off was most He played the Footman to perpalpable. fection in Archer; but he could not shew the Gentleman through the livery.

But highly as he enjoyed the pleasures of such a life, they were not long without allay. Though he lived in a great measure

measure with Hermione, his other amours were necessarily attended with such exapences, as not only drained his purse, but also involved him in many debts; for so effectually had he imbibed the principles, as well as the manners of the people he was among; as to throw off all regard to prudence, and deny himself nothing which he could obtain upon credit, without ever considering how that credit was to be discharged.

In this perplexed situation, the first resource he thought of was play, if he could engage in a proper party, at which he did not doubt but the same dexterity, which had stripped the sharpers at Wells, would be equally successful here, and reinstate his affairs. But he soon found he was precluded from this fashionable resource. The players, with whom he kept company, had nothing to lose; and his keeping their company shut him out of every other that was fit for his purpose.

Nor were his hopes from the stage more fuccessful. Much as the manager had praised and careffed him, while in the light of a volunteer, the moment he mentioned enlifting in the corps, the scene was totally changed; and he experienced, in some degree, the fate of his friend Buskin. A full company-Low receipts -Heavy expences-in short, a thousand reasons were ready for taking advantage of his necessity; and offering him terms which were rather an infult than a relief. He rejected them, therefore, without a moment's hefitation, in fuch a manner as made his pretence of having been only in jest, pass current; and went on in his former way, playing when he pleased, and merely for the pleasure of playing.

But as this pleasure alone could not satisfy all his appetites, he bethought himself of applying to his friend Wilson, in account with whom he held himself a considerable creditor, on the score of benefits. He wrote to him, therefore, with

with a well-affected air of modest reluctance, to borrow fifty pounds, in order, he say'd, to discharge some little debts which he had incautiously contracted; promising to repay it on his return to his friends, with whom he was at length happily in a treaty of reconciliation, though he could not yet, with propriety, apply to them on such an occasion.

In this instance his hopes did not deceive him. Wilson, with the most generous readiness complied with his request, remitting him, at the same time, as much more in the name of his wise; who subscribed with her own hand, her congratulation of his approaching happiness.

This seasonable supply relieved his distresses, but was far from lessening the indiscretion that had brought them upon him: On the contrary, it only enabled him to plunge into still deeper, by increasing his credit; so that he soon was in a worse state than before, as he had no other

other friend, to whom his modelty could have recourse.

Necessity now first suggested to him those shifts, which afterwards became the business of his life. But though no brain was ever more fertile in devising, no confcience more convenient for carrying them into execution, the field was too confined, and he soon found himself at his wits end.

Hermione was now his only support. He could eat with her; but her ability reached no farther; nor had it required little resolution for her to preserve even that much from his importunity; for to such a degree had he thrown off all regard to delicacy, that he could beg from a beggar, without a blush, to support his extravagance.

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CHAP. VIII.

HOW long even he could have struggled with such a state is not easy to say. He would have decamped without shame or scruple, but he knew not whither to retreat, so terrible was the thought of home to him.

His old friend Fortune, however, interposed once more in his favour, in this very critical moment of his fate. As he was sitting one morning, racking his brain how to shelter himself from the storm which threatened every hour to burst upon him, he was surprized by a note from an inn, to let him know that a lady there desired to see him.

At first he suspected it to be a finesse of some catch-pole; but as he went out every day, and every where, that suspicion instantly vanished. At length a thought

thought struck him, that it might possibly be some lady who had fallen in love with him on the stage; and proposed this rendezvous to disclose her passion.

Extravagant as such a notion must appear, it tallied so exactly with the way of thinking of the people with whom he conversed, that he instantly resolved to obey the summons, which otherwise, perhaps, he might not have been so ready to do, for this trisling reason, that he had not a shilling in his pocket to pay for a pint of wine, should there be occasion.

But what was his aftonishment, on his arrival at the place of assignation, to find, instead of the expected inamorata, his old maid Betty, the girl who had attended him in his childhood; and of whom particular mention has been made in the beginning of this faithful and accurate history.

Having stared at each other for some minutes, "Good heaven!" (she exclaimed,

claimed, running, and throwing her arms around his neck in rapture, which she was no longer able to restrain) " Am I " fo happy as to find my dearest master " again? The child of my bosom, my " guardian angel, and preserver!"-Then paufing a minute, as to be fure it was he-" But is this a fituation (she conti-" tinued) for the fon and heir of Squire " Juniper? A strolling player! a merry " Andrew, to make the mob laugh .-" It must not be. You must, and shall « come home with me this hour! And I " pray heaven, we may not be too late " to prevent the ruin with which your " folly threatens you!"-

"What ruin!" (interrupted he, rouzed by the word, from the stupefaction of astonishment with which the sight of her had struck him) "What ruin do you "mean?"—"O my dearest child! (she "replied) the severest of all ruins; the entire loss of your fortune. Your father, poor dear gentleman, has for some

" fome time been in so weak a state of mind and body, I really believe from his grief for the loss of you, that Mrs. " Juniper (I don't know how to call her your mother) has prevailed upon him to make a will, by which he has left

" every thing in her power."

"The reason she gave for desiring it, was, that she might be able to bring you back to a sense of your duty, should you ever return, which she always affected to doubt; saying, she was sure you had been murdered in some of your mad freaks. But I know that is all a pretence, and that her intention is to give the whole to a Colomel of Dragoons, whom she is indecently fond of, and will certainly marry, as soon as the breath shall be out of your poor father's body; which, in the way he is, cannot be far off. So, in God's name, come away with me instantly; and if we can overtake

him alive, I do not much fear but we

" shall

fhall be able to prevent this dreadful misfortune. I was on my way to my

father's; but every thing shall give

" place to this; and I will go back with

" you directly."

Before he had time to make her any answer, the door slew open, and in rushed Hermione; who, surprised at his not coming to breakfast with her, had gone to his lodgings, to see what was become of him; where sinding the note which he had forgot upon his table; she hurried after him, under the same apprehensions that had struck himself of its being a trick to arrest him.

But glad as she was to find her fears mistaken, the sight of a strange woman in his company, was far from being agreeable to her. "So! (say'd she, throwing her- self on a sofa)" another mistress! I should have thought a whole company of actresses was a seraglio large enough.

"But I see you are more insatiable than

" the grand Turk."

You

"You are mistaken madam! (he inter"rupted, frowning all the while" to stop her tongue; being desirous to conceal their connection from Betty, for whose virtue he could not help feeling respect, notwith-standing her station) "This is a lady, "whom I have long known; and who fent for me upon business of the greatest importance."

Hermione, who saw by his confusion, that there was more in the affair than she understood, was going to make an apology, when Betty prevented her? " You " are indeed mistaken madam! (say'd she, with a modest dignity, which virtue only can give)-" I am not what you are " pleased to intimate; nor yet a lady; " as this gentleman has thought proper " to call me; but an humble fervant e maid, who had the honour of rearing " him in my arms; and am now, I flatter " myself, sent by Heaven, to save him " from the ruin, with which his father's death, should it happen before he sees him,

OF JUNIPER-JACK.

" him; as there is reason to fear, if he

" delays his return to London, but a fingle

" day, inevitably threatens him.

" Good Heaven! (exclaimed Hermione)

" Mr. Smith in London?-How long has

" he been arrived from Jamaica?"

" Mr. Smith madam? (replied Betty)

" I know not whom you mean. This

" gentleman's father's name is Juniper.

"What? how?—(interrupted Her-"mione wildly) what is his father's name.

" do you fay ?-

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's es " Juniper! (answered Betty) the great

wit fould believe to be to the

Toda Hills in the Took

" squire Juniper, of Sobo-square."-

She was prevented from faying more, by the effect, which these words had upon Hermione, who no sooner heard them, than giving a scream of horrour, she fell in a swoon, upon the floor.

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CHAP. IX.

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HE aftenishment of Juniper, and his friend Betty at this fight, is not to be expressed. He had hitherto been so bewildered in the maze of thought, that he had not power to speak : but this restored hinr to himself. Berry and he having raised, and given her proper assistance, she at length opened her eyes; and fixing them upon him with a ghaftly stare, " why? (faid she) have you been so cruel, as to recall me to a life of horrow and " despair? Why did you not let me die " at once? I should so only have antia cipated the eternal milery, that must " be my lot, by a few hours, which would " have been abundantly recompensed, by my avoiding the shame I now fuffer."-

Then rising from her chair, "O Jack
" (she continued,) see the effects of
"throw-

throwing off the reftraints of virtue!—
of deviating from the streight path of
thuth! if I had not yielded to my unhappy passion for you!—if you had
told me your real name and family, we
had both escaped the horrour with
which you will be struck, as I am;
when you know that your own father
was the first seducer of my virgin innotence."—

The alarm, which her swooning had given our hero, was far short of what he felt, on hearing her say this. "My "father!—my own father your seducer! (he returned, all pale and trembling, as if in the agonies of death) "what horrid wretches then are we?—And what shall we do, to explate our guilt?"—"Kill ourselves, this moment! (she replied) and so rid the earth of two such mon-fiters."

It is more than probable, that the remorfe, with which this unhappy pair were agitated, would have driven them

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been a person present to direct their thoughts a better way. Though Betty herself was affected in the strongest manner, at this horrid discovery, her reason unclouded by guilt, soon enabled her to afford them the assistance of which they stood in so much need; she soothed their afflicted souls, she shewed them the extent of divine mercy, which never imputes the sins of ignorance; and she encouraged them to merit that mercy by sincere repentance, and a reformation of their lives, the indispensable fruit of it.

Having in some measure calmed their minds, she recurred to the subject, from which she had been diverted by the entrance of Hermione; and seeing that the connection between that unhappy woman, and her dear child, as she fondly called him, made reserve unnecessary, repeated the account she had before given him of the situation of his family, as a reason for pressing him in the strongest terms to return home with her directly.

The

The justice, of what she say'd admitted not a doubt, but the difficulty was, how to leave a place, where he was deeply in debt, without indelible difgrace; how to travel, without a shilling to defray the expence of his journey.

But his good angel Betty foon got over both these difficulties. The latter, which was the only one, she would admit to have any weight, she instantly removed, by flewing that she had money, much more than was fufficient for that purpose. She had earned it, she fay'd, in his family; and was happy to devote it to his fervice, as the readily would her life also: and as for the other difficulty! no man, she insisted, could hesitate a moment, about taking the only means, by which he had any probability of being ever able to remove it.

These points being settled, the next was, how he should contrive to get away, as he was fensible that he was watched; when Betty, who alone had her wits about her, proposed that he should go off directly, n.A.

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rectly, as if he was only taking a walk, to a particular place on the London med, and there wait for her, while the thould go to Hermione's for some of his lines, which luckily happened to be there; and was the only thing they would venture to attempt taking away, for fear of raising an alarm.

The unhappy lovers having taken a melancholy leave, they all three left the un, and walking together to the turn of the street, he struck off the way he was to go; while the two women went to Hermione's lodgings, where they had scarcely entered, when he was enquired for by a man, whom she well knew to be a catchpole.

The theatre is certainly the best school for learning a command of countenance. Without seeming to mind who he was, or shewing the least concern; she answered directly that he was gone to rehearfal; where she supposed he might be found; if not, he would be at home to dinner at the usual hour.

As foon as the first emotions of their fright were a little calmed, they both drew the happiest omen of the success of his journey, from the criticalness of his escape; of which Betty promised to inform Hermione, whose unseigned forrow for the crime, she supposed herself guilty of, attracted the compassion of that worthy-hearted woman.

CHAP. X.

this recorded in the an

ON her return to the inn, Betty, in order to obviate any suspicion of the true occasion of her changing her intended rout, and going off so abruptly, should her dear master have been traced to her, by any of the blood-hounds, who were hunting for him, enquired of the landlady the character of a family at a considerable distance, on the way to London, saying, she had got a recommendation to them for house-keeper, which prevented her D 4 going

going home to her father's, as the had before told them the defigned.

Ordering a chaise therefore instantly, as if in hopes of overtaking the stage-coach, she set off with a throbbing heart, and coming up with Juniper, before he had reached the place appointed, took him up, and proceeded without ever stopping, till they were safely out of the county.

The only circumstance relating to their journey, that I find recorded in the authentic memoirs, from which I have compiled this faithful history, is that Betty informed her fellow traveller of the charge of robbery brought against him by his tutor on his elopement, at which he expressed all the indignation of the purest innocence. But, as a superior genius can turn every incident of life, however cross at the moment, to some advantage; he instantly resolved to pay the doctor in his own coin, and lay the blame of his eloping, for which he was utterly at a loss for any plaufible excuse, on the bad usage he

he received from him. - She informed him alfo, that the way she had so fortunately happened to find him out, was, that being on her return to her father, who lived at the extremity of Yorksbire, and had fent for her on the death of his second wife, her curiofity had led her to the play the evening before, not knowing what elfe to do with herfelf, as she had no acquaintance in the town, where she was fo aftonished to see him on the stage in the character of an actor, that she could scarcely believe her senses; and resolved not to proceed in her journey till she could fatisfy herfelf by fending for him, as she had done, by the name she found he went by there.

On their arrival in London, Betty went directly to Mr. Juniper's, whom she had the good fortune to find alone. Unwilling as she was to lose any time, lest her mistress should come in, and lay some obstacle in her way; she was asraid to break the matter too abruptly to him, as

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E LIFE AND ADVENTURES

the knew he would be frongly affected by the discovery. She asked him therefore, coolly, after he had answered her enquiries about his health, if he had yet heard any thing of her young master; and on his replying in the negative, with a heavy figh, say'd, she was supprized at that, as she was almost certain she had seen him in the street that morning.

The emotion into which this newsthrew the poor man, proved the prudence
of her caution.—" Is it possible?—(he
returned, trembling with anxious joy)
" Is it possible? Surely you must know
" him too well to be mistaken!—Oh!
" that I could see him but once more
" before I die! But it is too much, too
" great a happiness for me to hope for
" in this life!"—

"Why so, sir?— (she replied) Why flould you not hope it? Many young gentlemen have been longer absent upon their frolicks; and yet returned fafe and well to their friends at last."

" What

"What can you mean, Beety and (fayld he, fixing his eyes upon her with the eagerest anxiety) "I think you, of "all people, would not trifle with me on this subject. If you have really feen him, tell me los, and bring him to me this minute."

"(the returned) which he finceroly re"pents of, and will make it the bufiness
"of his life to atone for?"

Forgive him!—(answered he, raifing himself in his chair). That I will;
and reward him too, for restoring me
to life; which I have never enjoyed
fince I lost him. Go directly, and tell
him every thing shall be forgiven, and
forgotten too, the moment he appears.
Make haste! if I were able myself, I
would go with you."—

The affectionate creature did not want to be bidden a fecond time. She flew directly to the inn, where she had be 6.

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less her dearest master, and throwing her arms around his neck, without regard to ceremony: "Come! (say'd she) come along with me this instant. I have seen your dear father, who forgives every thing; and is bursting with impatience to see you."

The thought of his having abused such goodness, affected Juniper so strongly, that he stood for some minutes unable either to speak or move. But his faithful friend soon roused him. "What is the matter? (say'd she) Will you wait here till your mother comes in, and raises such obstacles to your reconciliation, as you may never be able to get over?"—

These words brought him to himself. He instantly went with her in an hack-ney-coach; and being received with joy by all the servants, who had heard the happy news from their master, threw himself on his knees before him; and pressing his hand to his lips, bathed it with

with tears of unfeigned tenderness and affection, while the fond father sobbed out a blessing; and bidding him rise, embraced him with rapture, too big for utterance.

END OF BOOK I.

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES

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JUNIPER-JACK.

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t convorting of him, which though not

think tor risit ham furly an easy fool CHAPTER I.

HILE the prodigal fon and his forgiving father were in the midst of this tender scene, which filled every eye present with tears, the whole family having crowded up after their young master, Mrs. Juniper entered Her furprize at the fight of her fon, thus encircled in his father's arms, fenuck her speechless for some moments, which her hulband perceiving, " Jack! (fay'd he) Don't you fee your mother, boy?"-

Our

While Jack continued with his knee to the ground, overwhelmed with confusion at such a repulse, "Whu!— (say'd his "father) "father)—What's the matter now?—
"Has the woman no bowels of compal"fion? no natural affection for her own
child?—Is not the lad come home
again? and what more would you
have? I think that is a fufficient proof
that he is forry for going; and therefore I have forgiven him, and do forgive him from the bottom of my heart;
and don't fear, if he has played any
idle pranks while he was away, but he
will leave them off; and behave himfelf as he ought to do for the future.—
"Eh! Will you not boy?"—

"Sir! (answered Jack, arising from his knee, on which his mother had suffered him to remain all this time, and bowing most respectfully to his father, as he turned to him:) "It "shall be my pride, as I am sensible it is "my duty, to behave myself in a man-"ner not improper for your son. At "the same time, I must beg leave to affure you, that whatever youthful sol-

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"lies I may have fallen into, I have "never been guilty of any action un-"worthy of that respectable character; or that could raise a blush in the sace "either of my father or mother."

the old man, as well as the fullness of finis heart would permit him to speak) and what would the woman have more?—Well, boy! give me your hand upon that promise; and I'll depend upon it,—and if your mother is such an hard-hearted few, as to have neither Christian faith nor charity, that is not my case; I heartily forgive you; and so let us think no more of what's past, Your mother will forgive you too, by-and-by; but her thick blood must have time to melt,"

turned with a formal curtiey) "I chank myou for your compliment. I fee from this selapse into your old ribaldry, the reason

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reason of your joy at that runagate's return; that you may have him to a lift you in it, as usual. But if you can demean yourself so far, that is no rule that I should, as he shall find."

" Softly upon the stones there, my honey! (he replied with a farcastick fmile) "What he would have found, had " I died before his return, I plainly fee, But your reign is at an end; and now you thall find that it thall never be in your power to tyrannize over him, if " I live but five minutes longer. You, " who can treat him to before my face, w would have made fine work, when " there was nobody to controul you. se Here, Betty I take this key; open that bureau, and give me the parch-" ment you will find in the fecret drawer, on your right-hand, -There! That's " it !- You shall see your power over bim expine, with this unnatural will " that gave it." Saying which, he saifed his hand to throw the parchment into

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into the fire; when Mrs. Juniper, whose rage and surprize had made her unable to speak, rushed forward, and seizing his hand, would have wrenched the will out of it; had not Betty courageously interposed.

"Good God! madam! (fay'd she, catching her by the wrist, and turning it so violently, as made her instantly loose her hold.) "Take care what you "do! Consider, if you squeeze my "master's hand so, it will bring on a fit "of the gout that may last these six "months, as you know was the case, "when you closed the backgammon ta-"bles upon his singers at Batb."

The infult of such an interposition in a servant, and the pain she felt from the turning her wrist, threw Mrs. Juniper into so violent a rage, that she sorgot every thing else. "Audacious slut! (she exclaimed, slying at her like a fury, and striking with all her force at every word) "Do you dare to assault me in my

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" own house?" Though Betty could have repelled her attacks with ease, she had the presence of mind not to make the least relistance, certain of being rescued by the standers-by, before she should receive any material injury. Accordingly. as she expected, the servants directly interposed; and laying hold of the assailant, between entreaties and force, put a stop to the effects of her rage, though not till she had bathed poor Betty's face in blood. was and Him how

The situation of Juniper, in the mean time, was truely distressful. His heart felt every stroke given to his faithful friend; but still he could not interfere to fave her, for fear of giving farther offence to his mother.

His father, though, was not under the same restraint. As he could not rife to affift her himself, he called out to Betty to return the affault, and he would fland by her; and finding that her respect would not permit her to raise her hand,

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES

even in her own defeace, danished the other fervants for not having faved her from fucionablifiers to constant and

Mrs. Juniper having at length recovered her breath, bethought herself again of the will; and turning haltily to her hulband, asked him what he had done with it. "There it is! (he answered, pointing to the fire, where it was actually all in a flame.) "There it is! in the same condition, as those, I doubt not, will one day be, in a worse place, who prevailed upon me to make it; "unnatural fool, as I was."—

This fight, which shewed her the loss of all her dearest hopes, had such an effect upon Mrs. Juniper, that she directly fell into fits, in which she was removed into her own chamber, by her husband's order.

find by her; and finding that in a superwould not permit her to mid his hand.

Letter in receipt the affacts and

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where I was just finking pader diffices of every into the same

As soon as the was gone, "What a "fiend of a mother hast thou got " fack? (say'd he, with a spiteful grin) "Well it is for you, that you have returned in time, to make me destroy "that damned will; or else, I see, you would have had but a dog's life of it with her."—

"And what must I suffer, my dear is it! (answered Jack, pointing to Betty, as she was wiping the blood from off her face and neck) "to see my preserver, "the immediate cause of my return, treated in such a manner, upon my account?"—

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"She the cause of your return? (re"plied his father) How is that! I
"thought she had met you accidentally
"in the street this morning."
"She

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"She met me! (say'd Jack) or rather fhe was sent by Heaven to me, at York, where I was just finking under distress of every kind; being afraid to face you, after having sinned so grievously against your goodness."

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"And why so, boy?—(interrupted his father, hastily) Why so?—Did you think that I was a Turk or a Jew, that I would not forgive you, when I fould see you sorry for what you had done?—And so she was the cause of your coming back!"—

"She was not only the cause, sir!
"(answered Jack) but also supplied me
"with the means; for when I met her,
"I was not master of a shilling in the
world; and must absolutely have begged my way, as nothing should have
prevented my coming, the moment
I heared from her of your being sick.
Not that I suspected any thing of my
mother's unkindness; but it would
have driven me to despair, had it been

my misfortune to lose you, before L.
could throw myself at your feet, to
beg your forgiveness and blessing."

"Here, Betty! (fay'd Mr. Juniper, turning away his face, to hide the tears that gliffened in his eyes) "Take this key again, and reach me the pocwhich is in the same drawer " where you found the will .- Here, my good girl! (giving her a bank note fortwenty pounds) take this, as a reward " for your fidelity to your old mafter; " and call upon me, or him, for the " fame fum every year of your life, " which I will take care to leave you.-"And your boy, take thefe, and forget " than you ever wanted money; as you "never shall again, if it is not your own " fault." Saying which, he gave him alfo bank notes to the value of an hundred

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But while this part of the family was thus happily employed, the mistress of it was in a very different plight. As soon Vol. III. E as she had recovered from her sit, and given vent to the sullness of her heart, by a slood of tears, she saw not only the expiration of her power over her son, but also the necessity of being instantly reconciled to him, if she would avert the danger of having her own game play'd back upon herself, and being left in his. The difficulty was, how to bring about an accommodation, in the way of which she had lay'd such almost insurmountable difficulties, without descending from her dignity.

But the person who had defeated all her former schemes, assisted effectually to accomplish this. Betty had no sooner returned her sincere thanks to her master for his generosity, and wiped the blood off her face, though the marks of her mistress's nails were too deeply imprinted to be so soon effaced, than she thought it her duty to go and see how she was; and ask her pardon for having given her the trouble of honouring her with such a testimony of her notice.

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The truth was, this faithful creature utterly difregarded what had happened to herself (for which, by the bye, her mafter's bounty had administered ho bad falve) fince she had so happily accomplished the end she had in view; and therefore went, perhaps, as much to enjoy her triumph over her miltress, as to pay her duty to her. maffen that

Mrs. Juniper, who had by this time formed her refolution, on feeing her enter, with the scars on her face still bleeding, felt, or affected to feel the strongest shame and regret for having treated her in a manner fo unbecoming her own character. Instead of relapsing into rage, therefore, as Betty had expected. " thee, girl! (fay'd she, with a softened " look and voice) - How could you "be so filly as to provoke me in such a " manner, when you know the warmth " of my temper? You turned my wrift " so violently, that I believe you have E 2 put collect

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" put it out of joint. I never felt fuch

Betty, who had lived with her long enough to know all her turns, instantly took her cue. "Dear madam! (she answered, falling upon her knees) I most heartily beg your pardon. But really I was so terrified on account of my master, that I knew not what I did; for you know, madam, the affair at Bath had like to have cost the poor gentleman his life."

"Well, child!—(replied Mrs. Juni"per)—as I believe the fault was in your
"judgement, rather than in your in"tention, I will endeavour to think no
"more of it—and fo—you may take
"that cap, as your own is tumbled;
and here is fomething—(reaching her
"a guinea—) to buy a bit of black
plaifter for the scratches on your
face.—But what is become of the
"ungracious varlet, who was the oc"casion

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" casion of all this? - I suppose he is " with his brute of a father, rejoicing in " the hope that I should never recover out of the swoon into which the flurry " of my spirits, at the fight of him, as " well as the pain of my wrift, threw " me; though I verily believe, that if er you had not interfered fo improperly, "I should have turned fool myself, and " forgiven him too."-

" Indeed, madem, you do him the " severest wrong (returned Betty) in " thinking he could rejoice at any thing " hurtful to you. If you had feen the agony " that was painted in his face, it would " have endeared him to you for ever."

Why then does he not come and fee whether I am alive or not (fay'd Mrs. Juniper) if he was so much affected?"

" I am certain (answered Betty) that "he is kept away only by his fear " that his presence would be offensive to " you; and will throw himself once more

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" at your feet, the moment I tell him he has your permission."

Stop a minute!—(replied Mrs. Juni"per)—you must not say I know any
"thing of his coming; much less ac"quaint him with my weakness in his
"favour; that would be to encourage
"his committing the same crime again.
"What you say must be as from your"self. The advance must positively

" come from him.

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Betty naturally promised obedience, though she kept that promise no longer than till she saw her master, to whom she ran directly; and informing him of his mother's placable temper, as well as the motives of it, which she was too sharp-sighted not to see through all her cant, led him to her, where falling theatrically on his knees before her, she graciously condescended to hold forth her hand for him to kis, though not till she

had first given him a formal lecture on

his fault, and blazoned in the highest colours her own lenity in forgiving it fo eafily. . which the stort

Toro the discount appearance for the first

CHAP. III.

DEACE being thus restored, there was nothing to be feen in the house but feasting and festivity on the recovery of the lost sheep; though it is more than probable that all were not equally fincere in the joy they professed. Mrs. Juniper faw that her consequence was lessened in the eyes of others, as well as in her own. She felt the dearest hopes of her heart endangered. An appearance of pleasure, therefore, however necessary on the occafion, could not but fit uneafy on her.

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The happiness of Mr. Juniper, on the contrary, was without allay. As the loss of his spirits had followed that of his fon, they not only returned along with him, but brought back health also in

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their train. All his complaints vanished cogether. Far from remembering what he had fuffered from his fon's absence, much less balancing it against his present happiness, the fondness of his heart gave him all the merit of that happiness. looked upon him as his better angel, who had not only preserved his life, but also made that life a bleffing to him. gratitude therefore knew no bounds. Nor did it affect his heart alone. His hand was also open; and he seemed to consider fortune as given to him for no other use but to give to his fon, who, to do him that justice which is the duty of an historian, received his bounty as willingly, and difperfed it again as freely as it was beflowed. therestored however nee

As Jack's mind was too much taken up with this sudden change in his fortune, to think of the payment of his debts at York; if it was not, indeed, some natural defect in his memory, in regard to that particular subject, as he was never in his life

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life known to remember it; his friend Betty, after two or three ineffectual hints to him, took the care upon herself. In a few days after he was thus happily reestablished in his father's favour, the wrote Hermione word of it, as the had promiled, defiring her, at the fame time, to get a lift of his debts, and fend it to her; the obtaining of which was probably her principal motive for writing.

On receipt of the lift, the amount of which both surprized and frightened here she took a proper opportunity to lay it before his father, whom she had beforehand prepared for such a present. His surprize at the fight even exceeded her's, as the had not yet acquainted him with the way of life his fon had been in; and which had led him into fuch extravagance. The first thought that struck him was, that the whole was a trick. After looking at her for some time, " Harkee, " Betty (fay'd he) are you fure you " are not imposed on in this matter? ec for E 5

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" for I cannot think that you would ar" tempt to impole upon me."

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This suspicion was so natural, that Betty had foreseen, and accordingly prepared for it, by obtaining her young master's permission to reveal as from herself; and under a promise of secrecy, what he knew could not be long conceased. "Really, sir! (she replied) I "will not be answerable for the justness of the account; but, from certain circumstances, I am apt to fear it may be too right."

This necessarily leading him to require an explanation of what she meant, she made a merit of acquainting him with our hero's story, so far as was necessary to the present purpose; concealing only his connection with Hermione, whose name she never once mentioned.

It is impossible to describe the manner in which he was affected by this account. The pride, however, which he felt from the

the praises she bestowed upon his son's abilities, soon over-balanced every other thought with his fond heart. He readily, therefore, gave into a proposal which she made, of writing to some person of credit in York, to examine the accounts; that sensible woman neither being satisfied herself of the justness of them, nor willing to run the remotest hazard of incurring his suspicion.

The event showed the prudence of her advice. The creditors, on being called upon to prove their accounts, readily made very large abatements, to avoid a judicial detection of their impositions, which they pretended in vain to justify, by the usual plea of the hazard they had run in giving credit to a person under age; though they could not but be sensible, that very plea ought to make void their whole demands, as it showed their being conscious at the time, that what they did was unjust.

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The wretched Hermione though, came not off to well; as Betty politively refused to interfere in her behalf. The intercourse between Juniper and her, appeared to have been horrible, it is true; but that was not his reason. She had a just claim upon his gratitude; 'a just demand' of being pay'd the money she had lent him in the day of his diffres; money procured by pawning, or felling every thing valuable in her possession. very justice defeated itself. The obligations conferred on him were written on fand; and the thought of paying was fo painful, that while he was lavishing hundreds upon proftitutes, with whom he might, for aught he knew, be committing the same crime, he refused, or which was the same thing, he neglected to send her a shilling to buy a morsel of bread.

Though Mr. Juniper had promised Betty to keep the secret with which she had entrusted him, it was no more in his power to restrain his curiosity to see a proof

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of those abilities which she extelled so highly, than to live without air. The difficulty was, how to obtain such a proof, without seeming to break faith with her, or hurting his son's delicacy.

After beating his brains for some days, he at length heppened upon an expedient which promised him success. As his son was sitting by his bed-side one morning, where he always breakfasted at his desire.—" How comes it, Jack! (say'd he) "that you have never told me the reason of your going away from school; and how you contrived to live while you were absent? I have deferred asking you, in expectation of your informing me from yourself, as you may naturally think I must have a defire to "know."

Jack, who had long feen this question coming, was prepared for it. He answered with well-affected confusion, that his silence had proceeded from fear of giving him pain, by hearing of follies, which

which it gave himself the greatest pain to think of; and which nothing but the obedience he owed, and should always pay to his commands, could prevail upon to repeat now.

He then told him, that the sole cause of his elopement had been to free himself from his tutor, whose tyranny, and impositions of every kind, he was no longer able to bear; though he had forborne to complain of them, for fear of giving offence to his mother, who, he saw, was resolved to support him, even against the clearest conviction. And that—for his manner of living—he was assanded—he was afraid to say—that, not daring to return home, and not knowing what else to do—he—had—gone upon the stage.—

"Eh, boy! (returned his father, who mow had him where he wished)—"Upon the stage?—How could that be?—What parts could you act?"—

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The pleasure that sparkled in his eyes as he say'd this, convincing Jack that he had nothing to fear, he not only told him the parts he had play'd, but also gratified his curiosity with a proof of his abilities in each, to the inexpressible delight of his father, who valued himself more upon his son's being so clever a fellow, than if he had been made a peer of the realm.

CHAP. IV.

polis, or only district to include the plea-

OUR hero had another reason, beside that already given, for laying the blame of his elopement upon his tutor. This was to be revenged upon his mother, for her designs against him, by giving his father this lash over her, which he well knew he would often make her feel, as he accordingly never failed to do, and especially in company, in every difference in opinion between them, which

was almost in every occurrence of their lives.

But this, however mortifying, was far from being the greatest mortification she met in consequence of her son's return. Her favourite Colonel was too constant a guest at her table, to remain long unacquainted with the fate of the will. Indeed, Mr. Juniper, whether it was that he suspected any thing of her real purpose, or only did it to indulge the pleasure he felt in giving her pain, took care to let him know, with a significant hint, that her power over his son's fortune was at an end.

The effect which this news had upon the Colonel, foon showed itself. He not only cooled in his addresses to Mrs. Juniper, but also publickly transferred them to a Dowager of her acquaintance, whose fortune was already in her possession.

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This was too much for woman to bear. She dropped all company; and shutting herself up in her closet to include religious meditation, sought consolation from her Guarde du vin; which in a short time lulled all her cares to rest.

The death of Mrs. Juniper, as is generally the case with people of fashion, gave no great concern, nor made any alteration in her family. All things went on in the old way, there was the same state kept up; the same concourse of company, with this difference only, that Jack, who was now absolutely master, dropped these he knew his father distilled; who, indeed, were all his mother's favourities; and supplied their places with others, more to both their likings.

The inexhaustible fund of happiness, which the discovery of his son's theatrical talents opened to Mr. Juniper, whom he never resuled to gratify with a spout, or a take-off, made him in return open his purse

purse with such liberality, that our hero soon blazed forth with distinguished lustre, among the brightest youths of the age, his expences being directed by a taste to which the greater part of them were strangers. He was the favourite of the women, the envy of the men! he gamed, he intrigued, he fought a duel; and to sinish his character, he made a marriage of love, in high life, end in a divorce; though he fell somewhat short of the fashion, by not marrying his mistress.

He had failed thus before the wind for some time, without ever considering, whither such a course might lead him; or taking the least warning from the fate of his companions, some of whom he saw over-set, every day; when he was obliged to stop short, and think for a few minutes, by an accident; seldom disagreeable in his situation. This was the sudden death of his father; if the expiration of a lamp, that had glimmered in the socket, till the last drop of oyl was burned out, can be called

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called sudden; because it was not immediately extinguished by another cause.

This event opened new scenes to him. He had always thought, as indeed did the world, that his father's fortune was very large; for with all his indulgene to his son, all his illness, he ever kept the management of his affairs to himself! what then was his aftonishment to find them in the most ruinous disorder. His government securities all gone. His estates in mortgage; and such long accounts running, as could not be discharged regularly, by his income; without the affistance of extraordinary expedients.

To compleat his embarrassement, he had also heavy debts of his own; contracted, to conceal from his father the enormity of his expences, of which he was himself ashamed; particularly his losses at play; the company he now kept being too expert in their business to leave him any chance of winning upon the square and too well versed in all its mysteries, for him

him to venture upon practifing those arts, by which he had more than once strip'd gamblers of inferior rank, for all which, he knew he should be called upon directly. In a word! he had inherited only the name, the shadow of a great fortune; the substance of which had been wasted long before.

There were few men, however, better qualified by nature to struggle with such a situation, the most difficult in which a young man can be placed. But there were also many things against him, that over-ballanced his abilities; and enhaunced that difficulty a thousand fold.

He was now in the twenty-fifth year of his age, the spring-tide of his blood; intoxicated with pleasure, the slave of passions that had never known restraint, and habituated to a style of life, which he could no longer continue, without certain ruin.

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He started at the gloomy prospect; and for some hours thought seriously how it could be amended. But this was a pain severer to him, than the apprehension of any evil that could be warded off, only for a single day. He resolved, therefore, to proceed in his old way; and leave the event to fate. His father, he considered, had concealed the state of his affairs, and kept up his credit, to the last!—Why then might not he do the same?—And a man is never poor, till his poverty is known.

Fortune might also befriend him by various means, while he continued in her way; out of which any prudential scheme would totally remove him. He might marry some lady with a great fortune, and so get money to pay his debts. He might get into parliament, and shift off paying them, till he should repair his fortune, by some lucky job; and he should live, as he liked, in the mean time.

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T is an observation, drawn from uniwerfal experience, that the first exer-tion of an heir's authority, is to dismiss all the old fervants of his predecessor. Whether this proceeds meerly from a defire to shew that authority; or a resentment of their having at any time prefumed to prefer their former master's pleasure to his, is a point, on which the opinions of the learned are much divided. But it is agreed by all, that the fact is invariably fo, in every rank of life. The to soo;

Our hero having performed the last duties to the remains of his father, with a pomp fuited to the style of life, in which he had lived; and which his fon was refolved to keep up, as long as he could, directly fet his household in order, on that principle. Even his faithful friend Betty, whom a sense of his obligations to her, can obli roo who qui mer

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her, the most unpardonable fault a servant can have, made a pain to his sight, was obliged to retire on her pension, to make room for the favourite of his mother; who, he expected would be more obsequious to his will, as she had no such merit to presume upon.

These domestick matters being settled in the time sacred to the privacy of grief, he had searcely returned the visits of condolence, when he received others of a very different kind both from his father's creditors, and his own; for all of whom, except those of his *Honour*, whom he made a shift, however ruinous, to pay immediately, he had the same excuse ready, that he would send to them, as soon as he should have time to look into his affairs.

But though this answer satisfied, or seemed to satisfy them for the present, he was sensible that it would soon be worn out; much sooner, too probably, than he could have another ready that might

be even equally fatisfactory, if he did not look about him betimes.

Of the two methods in which he had proposed to himself to hunt fortune, by marrying, or getting into parliament, the former appeared the more eligible on many accounts. The advantage would not only be readier, but also the terms of it less irksome. A man need not live with his wife longer than he liked her, after he had gotten possession of her fortune; but from the drudgery of a place-man there is no respite. If he will eat, he must earn his daily bread by his daily labour.

Favourably for his scheme, his heart was free from every attachment that might have damped his ardour in fuch a pursuit. If he had ever regarded any woman with a preference, it was Miss Oak-beart-(Mrs. Wilson) but even for her, he felt little more than that appetite, imprinted by nature, on every thing that has life, for the continuation of the species, Besides,

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he was then but a boy. Since that, the facility of fuccess, wherever his fancy led him, prevented his fixing; for it is difficulty only that confirms love.

On throwing his eyes around him, he was foon convinced, that the proper object of his pursuit was not to be found in high life; the females of which, he knew, to be all upon the same look out with himself; those few, who had any fortune being as eager for more, as the rest were for a certainty of being maintained, in a state suited to their birth; so that there was nothing to be done there.

No more, he was fensible, could he expect to succeed, where youth and beauty were in the same scale with fortune, even in an inferior rank, a title being the price, fixed with them. In a word! if he would have money, he must lay his account with taking age, or deformity, perhaps both, along with it, in the bargain.

Vol. III.

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This,

This, however, was no very great objection with him. Could he have his choice, he certainly would chuse a wife, as well as a fortune, to his liking. But, as that was not the case, he would even be satisfied with the fortune, be the wife what she might.

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But notwithstanding this readiness on his side, the affair was not so easie to be accomplished. There were so many bidders at market, that a good thing was snapped up in a minute; so that after a considerable time spent in looking out, he was as much to seek, as the first day.

In the mean while, he was far from being at his ease at home. The fame of his having succeeded to a large fortune, had directly marked him out to his companions, as a pigeon worth plucking; in consequence of which, his losses at play became more frequent, and heavier than ever; it being impossible for two eyes, without he had one of them in his pole, to watch twenty, placed all around him.

him. For any one man, perhaps he was a match: but the greatest valour must vield to odds.

The report of his loffes also, which cannot be concealed, and are never leffened, alarmed his creditors, with apprehensions of being too late, if they lost any time. His tradefmen all fent in their bills. His mortgagees began to talk of fore-clofing; and his very fervants, who instantly discover a master's difficulties, and from their great honesty make them known, that other honest people may take care of themselves, concluding that there would not much longer be any thing for them to plunder, began to flacken in their attention, and look out for other places.

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CHAP. VI.

HE had struggled in this situation for some time, harrassed, but not dispirited, without being able to do any thing toward extricating himself, when he bethought him of seeking relief at a place where, of all places in the world, he might have been thought to have the least reason to expect it.

This was at church; whither the success of some of his acquaintances, in a like situation, encouraged him to betake himself, in search of a wife; the votaries of religion being ever found to be well inclined to love, in an honest way; and ready to share their good things of this world, in return for it; the ardour of devotion kindling a charitable and pious desire of rescuing deserving young men from wickedness, and want.

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To this success, it is true, there seemed to lie some objections, from the notorious libertinism of his life, and impiety of his conversation. But this was only with those, who viewed things in a superficial light. Beside the universal maxim, that a young sinner makes the best saint, the honour of such a convert, he knew, would excite the piety of those worthy semales to run any risk.

In order therefore to lose no time, as indeed he had none to lose, if he would avoid being torn to pieces, the thought no sooner struck him, than he resolved to reconnoitre the flock of one of those self-called reformers, who affecting a superiour zeal, soar above the reason of their hearers, as well as the religion of their country; and by declaiming against the pleasures of life, secure to themselves a double portion of them, while by their enthusiastick rant, they instame the minds of their followers, to a susceptibility of any impression.

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He repaired accordingly, that very evening to a celebrated conventicle, the paftor of which had himself succeeded in the same pursuit, where it was his hap to be shewn into a pew, in which he found a gentleman of his acquaintance, in company with two ladies, to whom he seemed to pay particular respect.

The circumstance hit our hero's scheme so critically, that he could not help being affected by it, and regarding them with an attention that struck the notice of their conductor, who attributing it to curiosity, gave him an opportunity of gratifying it, by inviting him to pass the evening with them at his house.

Little as the reader may expect it, a fense of the strange business he was upon, affected our hero so strongly, that in spite of his natural vivacity, his experience in the world, and all its ways, he could not conceal, much less conquer his embarrassment. There was, however, a singularity, a something in the appearance

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ance of the ladies, that made this embarraffment feem no more than surprize. Their dress, which was unfashionably rich, sat uneasy on them. They stared at every thing they saw, as if they were at a loss what to make of it.

A congeniality in their features told their relation, before they were announced as mother and daughter. The mother, who was arrived at what the French call a certain age, appeared to have been very handsome, or rather had one of those faces which look best at that age, their features having wanted sufficient softness and delicacy in youth; and consequently wearing better than those of a finer texture. Her conversation shewed strong natural sense; but there was a coarsenss in her sentiments, a vulgar freedom in her behaviour, that betrayed a total want of good breeding.

But the case was not the same with the daughter. She had all the natural endowments, unallayed by the disadvantages

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under which her mother laboured. Her age appeared to be about eighteen. Her figure was elegant; and her face, if not regularly beautiful, was animated by a fensibility and sweetness, more pleasing than any beauty.

The freedom of Mrs. Cowskin's behaviour—(that was the name of the ladies)—foon restoring our hero to himfelf, he displayed his powers of pleasing in so many various lights, that she took such a liking to his company, as to invite him to her house the next evening; which, it may be supposed, he did not decline; especially as he had often caught her eyes intently fixed upon him; a circumstance that seemed auspicious to his hopes.

To be certain, however, that he was upon a right scent, as he knew there were such things as cheats in the world, he stay'd them out; when his friend asking him jocosely, what wind had blown him to such a place as a church? he answered

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fwered carelessly, that having nothing todo, he had come out of idle curiofity, tofee in what manner people spent their time there.

Whether your curiofity was idle " or not (answered the gentleman)-" your indulging it may turn out the " luckiest incident of your life, if your " can improve the acquaintance you have " made there, fo as to get either of those " ladies."—He then proceeded to tellhim, that they were the widow and only daughter of a tobacco-planter of Virginia, who had died lately, and left them an immense fortune. One circumstance, indeed, he added, which was not quite for pleasing; that the mother had been a transported convict, whom her master had married; a piece of good fortune not uncommon in those countries.

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CHAP. VII.

THOUGH this intelligence determined him to level his aim at the daughter, he saw the necessity of keeping fair with the mother at the same time; not only because of her influence, but also to secure the reversion of her fortune; a circumstance which threatened more difficulty in his undertaking, than he had at first apprehended; especially if she should have unfortunately taken a liking to him herfelf, as the earnestness with which she had kept her eyes fixed upon him the whole evening, feemed to fay.

This, however, was a difficulty too distant to come yet into consideration; and for furmounting which, he must depend upon contingencies, at whose management no man was readier than himfelf. He pay'd his visit therefore at the time

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time appointed, when his fears seemed to be confirmed, by his finding the mother only at home.

The agitation in her looks, as she received him, did not lessen his apprehensions. After the usual formalities, she seated herself beside him on a sofa; and with an anxiety impossible to be restrained, say'd, she had a favour to ask, upon his granting which, the happiness of her suture life depended; which was, that he would open his bosom, and let her see his lest breast.

Strange as such a request seemed, it was impossible to refuse complying with it. He opened his bosom therefore, where she no sooner saw the mark, which the reader may possibly recollect, or if he does not, I must beg leave to remind him, that his own mother, Mrs. Whiskey, had imprinted there, to prevent his being changed upon her, before she sent him to be educated at the parish academy, as hath been related at large, in the beginning.

ning of this accurate and faithful history, than giving a loud scream, she threw her arms around his neck, and kissed him in the tenderest manner, unable to speak from the fullness of her heart.

It is impossible to describe the confusion of our hero, when the servants, alarmed by the cry, entered and caught him in this situation. He would have disengaged himself; but she held him so fast, that he was obliged to remain in her arms, while she gave vent to the passions with which her heart was bursting, by a slood of tears.

As foon as she had recovered power to speak, she ordered the servants out of the room; and then turning to our hero, as he sat, utterly lost in amazement—"Tell "me (say'd she, with wildness in her looks)—"Tell me, I conjure you, how long you have had that mark on your breast; and if you know how you got it?"—

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"Madam!—(he answered, little less affected than she)—"I presume I got it "from nature; for I remember it as long as I remember myself."

"Gracious Heaven! (she exclaimed, her eyes sparkling with joy)—" It must be hel—But the name of Juniper!—" How can that be?"—(Then pausing for some moments, wrapped in thought)—" Will you, my dearest sir!—I am al-" most tempted to call you by a still dearer name; but it is not yet time.—" Will you answer me another question, on which the happiness of my life, and possibly the welfare of your's depends, Have you always gone by your present name?"

"Good God! madam! (he replied)
"What name should I go by, but that
"of my father?"

"O! — (she returned, shaking her head) — You will hear strange things!
"But do not be alarmed! they will do "you

" you no injury! Tell me then, I fay,

or are there any of the people living who

stattended you in your infancy; for on

" that all depends?--"

"Yes!—(fay'd he).—The nurse who

" fuckled me at her breaft."-

"Oh! where is she! (she returned in a transport of joy—where is she?)—" Let

" her be fent for this moment! fhe, and

" she only, can set my heart at rest.—

Where are you going?—You shall not

ftir from this place! You shall not leave

" my fight a moment; till we see this wo-

man together. Let her be fent for in-

" stantly, as you regard your own wel-

fare."__

"Madam!—(he replied, as well as his aftonishment would permit him to speak)—"What can all this mean? The woman you desire to see lives several

" miles out of town.-"

"If she lived at the farthest corner of the kingdom!—(she returned)—
"never will I let you out of my sight till

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"we both see her. Let her therefore be fent for this instant! I told you before that you need not be alarmed. Let the event be as it may, you shall have no reason to repent your complying with my request.—"

The earnestness with which she spoke was not to be resisted. He called for his servant, and in her hearing, ordered him to go directly with the post-chaise to Mill-bill, for nurse Barns, and bring her to him there, where he should stay till his return with her.

"And now madam! (he contined, as foon as the servant had left the room)—
"Give me leave to beg, that you will
explain a scene which tears my soul
with amazement and anxiety, too strong
to be supported. I have complied with
every request of your's; and hope you
will not refuse me this!—"

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"You shall be satisfied!—(she answered)—To the highest wish of your heart,

"heart; you shall be satisfied, you may be " affured. But I must conjure you to " wait till the arrival of the nurse, when " I am convinced, ftrange things will " come out: and in return I promise to " comply with any request you can make " of any kind whatfoever." - Saying which, fhe rung for tea, in order that the presence of the servants in attendance might put a stop to any further importunity from him; whereupon as he faw her defign he directly attempted to enter into conversation on common subjects! but both their minds were too much taken up, too anxious for the arrival of the nurse, to let them think of any thing else. things and leave to bear that you will

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CHAP. VIII.

THEY were relieved however from this painful state much sooner than they expected; the servants having luckily found the nurse at her master's house, whither she frequently came to pay him a visit.

As foon as she entered, Mrs. Cowskin herself locked the door of the room, and leading them into a closet to prevent all possibility of their being over-heard, made her sit down, and with a look, in which were expressed the strongest emotions that could agitate the human heart; "my dear good woman!—(fay'd she, taking her by the hand in a friendly manner) "You are brought here about an affair upon which the welfare of this gentle-"man as well as my happiness depends." I know it is hard for people to accuse "them-

"themselves; but then, it is better to submit to that hardship, than "run the hazard of dying in unrepented sin; for without confession,
there can be no repentance. It is better to suffer shame here for a
fhort time, than eternal misery hereafter. Not that your shame will be
publick either; it will be known only
to this gentleman and me; and it will
be our interest to conceal it, as much
as your's.—"

Then observing that the poor woman was greatly affected by what she say'd, "I conjure you now—(she continued)—" by the living God, and all your hopes "of mercy from him, that you declare, "whether this gentleman, is to the best of your knowledge, really the son of "Mr. Juniper; and if not, from whom you had him when an insant; and I. "swear to you by the same God, that your answer shall never turn to your pre-

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" prejudice in any respect, as I dare " to fay he will alfo."-

It is impossible to describe the situation of the woman, at this folemn adjuration. She looked around her, terrified and amazed, as afraid either to speak or hold her tongue, till encouraged at length by her foster son's giving her the same affurance as she had received from the lady. though his own anxiety and affright were fcarcely less than her's, "Well then !-(fay'd she, falling on her knees, raising her hands and eyes towards Heaven)-" I will give honour to God, " let what will happen to me! and de-" clare a truth, with which my heart has " long been burfting."-Having fay'd which, the directly informed them of the manner, in which she had gotten our hero from the parish nurse, as it hath been recorded at large, in the first book of this accurate and faithful history.

The fituation of her hearers, as she was speaking, was most different; while the face of

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of Mrs. Couskin glow'd with joyful exultation, our hero stood petrified with aftonishment, shame, and despair. But the fuffered him not to remain long in that The moment the nurse had ended, she ran to him; and throwing her arms again about his neck .- " O my child! my child!—(fay'd she, bathing his face with her tears, as the preffed it to her bosom)-" Have I found you my dear child, after " I had given up all hopes of fuch happi-" ness?"—Then falling upon her knees " O God !- (fhe continued) How wonderful are all thy ways! how great " your goodness to me, a poor sinner? " all I defire more in this world, is only " to live a few days, that I may be able to make some amends to my child for my former wicked neglect of him; and then I shall die in peace"-

Having fay'd this she arose; and turning to our hero, whose heart was too much agitated to return her caresses with equal warmth, "I wonder not, my son! " say'd. (fay'd she)-" at the confusion with " which I see you overwhelmed at this " discovery! but be not alarmed, the " fecret is known only to those whose in-" terest it is to keep it, so that you have " no reason to fear disgrace; and as for " any thing elfe, you must have too " much good sense to think the worse of " yourself for the fault of your parents. " But these are matters which we will "talk of at another time. The first " thing to be done, is to reward this dear " good woman for her care of my child; " and encourage her to keep the fecret "henceforth as well as she has done " hitherto." - Saying which, the went to her bureau, and putting fifty guineas in a purse gave them to her; telling her, that if she would take her voluntary oath upon the bible, never to mention a fyllable of the affair to any one living, she would give her as much every year of her life; a condition with which the nurse gladly complied; and then departed with an happy heart As

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As foon as fhe was gone, " your fur-" prize is fo great, my dear child!"-(fay'd Mrs. Cowskin, seating herself again upon the fofa, and making him fit down by her, while she took him fondly by the hand.)- That you can-" not share in the joy of your mother on " this happy discovery! but that fur-" prize will be turned to joy also, I make " no doubt, when I shall tell you, that " your once poor miserable mother, who " was transported for an offence against " the law which she was basely led into, w by one, in whose judgement she had " placed her confidence; and which she ** knew not to be an offence liable to " fuch punishment, when she was guilty of it; and who was obliged to abandon " her poor infant to the charity of the " world, is now honeftly mistress of fifty " thousand pounds; one half of which " I will give you directly, and leave you the rest at my death; so that I do not " fuppose you will be any great loser by se giving up to the true heirs the fortune es you

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OF JUNIPER-JACK.

" you have without any just right in-" herited to their prejudice; as without a

" due regard to justice no man can expect

" happiness in this world, much less in

" the next."

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The reader will readily believe that this news quieted all the uneafiness which fo strange a discovery had given our hero; especially, as he could easily satisfy his mother's scruples about the necessity of making fuch a restitution as she proposed; Mr. Juniper having left no relation whom he knew of in the world; his origin being as obscure; and probably from the same reason as that of his supposed son.

Having recovered his usual presence of mind, therefore, he threw himself at his mother's feet; and taking her hand, kiffed it with filial reverence and affection. while she with much greater fincerity, heaped the bleffings of her full heart upon his head.

CHAP.

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A S foon as the had fomewhat shaken off the foftness of fuch a fcene, she told him that the ftory of her life was too long for her to enter upon then, as the expected the return of her daughter every moment, whose anxiety to know the event of their meeting was little less than her own had been; it having been out of her power to conceal from her the cause of the emotions the had felt, on thinking of the bare possibility of so happy a discovery; affuring him, that he need be under no apprehension of her making an improper use of their confidence, as the had ever thewn a discretion above her age. Beside, that it was better to make a merit by entrusting her voluntarily with what she must know of necessity, as nothing else could justify her own giving him so large a part of her fortune.

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This last was sufficient to remove all objections : he therefore without helitation affented to her opinion in that engaging manner, which makes compliance doubly pleafing; declaring, that his heart had felt such prepossession in favour of his fifter the moment he faw her, as could be the work of nature only, from whose inexplicable hints he supposed his mother's enquiries must also have proceeded. "Not " at all! my dear child!—(she answered) " -my enquiries arose from another Whether there may be fuch a " power in nature as you speak of I will not " pretend to fay, being a poor unlearned It was a particular cast of " woman. " your eyes that discovered you to my " heart, on which it was too deeply im-" printed ever to be forgotten, though "God forgive me, it had once a very " different effect upon it.—"

Just as she say'd this her daughter entered; and looking anxiously at her mother, our hero, who never was at a loss to Vol. III.

do any thing with the best grace, instantly ran to her; and clasping her in his arms,

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- " Am I so happy—(say'd he) as to em-
- " brace a fifter, whom my heart acknow-
- " ledged the first moment I saw her?"-

"O madam! O fir!—(exclaimed she, far from declining his embrace) Is it "possible? Are we all so happy?"—A few tears of joy, a tribute which our hero had always at command, having calmed their emotions, Mrs. Cowskin requested that her son would gratify her anxious curiosity with an account of himfelf, promising to give him her history in return, the next morning.

Though he could not refuse complying with this request, he did not think it necessary to be too explicit, or confine himself literally within the precise limits of truth, in the account he should give. He therefore made up such an one as he thought most proper for his purpose, on the same principles with that, which he had on a former occasion given Maria; conceal-

concealing what he did not defire the should know, and imagined there was no danger of her discovering; and giving such a turn to the rest, as he judged most likely to work upon her passions, and palliate his own faults; concluding with a folemn affurance, in confirmation of what he had before fay'd of the power of nature, that his heart had never felt the same tender emotions, in return for all the fondness of Mr. and Mrs. Juniper, as it did that very moment; an affurance, not improbably true, except in the fingle instance of Mr. Juniper's kind reception of him, after his first elopement, though whether from the motive which he would infinuate, the reader is left to indge.

The effect of fuch a tale need not be told. His mother and lifter, whose sympathetick tears of grief or joy had accompanied every incident of it, once more embraced him; and congratulating each other on a discovery, from which they promised themselves so much happi-

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ness, separated in sentiments of the most sincere regard.

The state of our hero's mind, when he came to reslect on these matters, is most dissicult to be described. Though he had ever held pride of family in the most sovereign contempt, perhaps because he was conscious that he had no title to it, there was something so humiliating, even in his own eyes, in the thought of having been an out-cast, a creature of publick charity, that his heart revolted against it; and he resolved to struggle with his sate, rather than submit to such a disgrace.

But a minute's reflection shook this resolution. The case, he was persuaded, was far from being uncommon, even in the highest ranks of life. The matter only was to keep it secret; of doing which, as his mother had rightly observed, there was no great danger, it being known only to those whose interest it was to conceal it.

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Beside, the immediate acquisition of such a fortune as would extricate him from all his difficulties, and the certainty of as much more on the death of his mother, not to mention the chance of his sister's death; for his mind was not so silled, but he could extend his view to every possible contingency, were arguments of too great weight to be resisted. He resolved therefore to sollow fortune willingly, as far as she should be inclined to lead him, while she was in so good a humour.

He repaired accordingly to Mrs. Cowskin's next morning, as she had desired, when he again found her alone, her daughter not desiring to hear what she already knew; or her mother, perhaps not desiring that she should hear more.

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Having given orders that no person should be let in, she led her son into her closet, and seating him beside her, gave him the following account of her life; the first part of which the reader will find to have been formed nearly upon the same G₃ principle

principle with that given her by him, the day before; with this difference, that though probably she told nothing but the truth, yet not being sworn to tell the whole truth, she thought herself at liberty to pass over what she did not choose to tell.

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JUNIPER-JACK.

BOOK III.

CHAPTER I.

BEFORE I begin my own fad ftory (fay'd she) it may not be improper to inform you, that I am descended from one of the best families in my country; a family who were princes, before most of your nobility were gentlemen. You smile at what I say; but you have no reason. No man ever made light of being of a good family, who was of one himself; or whose actions did not disgrace it."

G 4

" Dear

means desiring to give her offence)—I most humbly ask your pardon. The smile you observed, proceeded not from the cause you suppose; no man having a juster sense of the honour of being well born than myself. It was the thought, that I have never yet met any one from our country, for your country must be mine, who was not descended from princes, though without a shoe to his feet, or a morsel of bread to eat."

"Very true, my dear!—(she replied) and it is such foolish pretences which make the truth ridiculous. But that is not our case. Your own histories will shew you what the O'Rooks were in former days; and if they are down at present, that is no proof to the contrary. Every man who comes into the world is subject to the chances of it; and so must every family of course. But to return—

"My father having a large family, and but little means of providing for it, three

three of my brothers went into the French fervice, scorning to dishonour themselves, as they fay'd, by working for their bread at home; and I, having the fame spirit, came along with a kinfman of our's to this town, where, he fay'd, I could not fail of making my fortune by marriage, as two of my cousins had done a little before; being reckoned a comely girl in those days, little appearance of any suchthing as I have now."-Saying which, fhe looked in the glass which stood oppofite to her, while her for made her a bow, accompanied with a fmile, which was farfrom being so offensive as the former.

" The difficulties I struggled with (she continued) in fuch a place as this, without money or friends, for the one I came over with foon left me to shift for myself, need not be told. In fhort, after fuffering more than I am able to describe, I fell a prey to the wiles of a base man, who took advantage of my confidence in him to bring me to fin and shame; and

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then, as neither of us was able to maintain the fruits of our folly, I was perfuaded by him to fend a letter to a gentleman, threatening to lay the child to him, if he would not provide for it; as the other fay'd he was fure he would do, rather than have fuch a thing lay'd publickly to his charge.

"But instead of complying with my demand, the gentleman prosecuted me for it; and the very villain who wrote the letter, for, God help me, I could not at that time even write my name, turning evidence against me, I was sentenced to be transported for seven years, when I was forced to leave you, my poor, innocent, helpless infant, to the charity of the wide world."—At which words she burst into a flood of tears; neither could her son, with all his heroism, moved at the agonies in which she appeared to be, or perhaps at the resection of the state he had been left in, forbear accompanying her.

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in fo Shaking off such an usual weakness, however, just as she was going to resume her story—" But, madam!—(said he) you have not informed me to whom I am indebted for my being. I should be glad, if you please, to know my father, as well as my mother."—

"That, my dear child!—(fine answered, blushing as she wiped her eyes)
is a secret I cannot inform you of.
When I once make a promise, nothing
in this world can influence me to break it.
This you may be affured of, you are wellbegotten."—

"That I have no doubt of, madam!—
(fay'd he, smiling) Fair fall the bones that
took the pains for me. A bungler never
helped to make this leg."

"Well, well! (she reply'd) I can excuse your pleasantry upon such an occasion. It is natural. But as I was saying—On my arrival in Virginia, I was sold for the seven years of my sentence,

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like a cow or an horse; though I had found means to make such a provision, not only for my voyage, but also for obtaining my liberty, on my arrival, by paying the captain for my passage, that I might have reasonably expected a better fate; but the villain robbed me both of my clothes and money, and then treated me in that base manner.

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"I Need not say what I suffered. I was so shocked, that I was often tempted to put an end to my misery by death. But Heaven, that had the happiness of this day in store, inspired me with better resolution.

"My master, who was very rich, and had a way of thinking much above the generality of his countrymen, sent me to a plantation which he had a great way back in the country, in the care of a steward,

steward, under whom I was to manage the female slaves.

"If there is any state that can justify our being ashamed of our nature, it is that I was now placed in. To one who has any feelings of humanity, it is worse, even than that of the miserable creatures placed under our care, because of the cruelties we are obliged to treat them with. It struck me with such horror, that I resolved, if I could not perform my duty in another manner, I would give up my charge, let what would become of me; for I could not bear to treat fellow-creatures, and of my own sex too, worse than brute beasts ought to be treated.

"Unable to bear the thought of driving them to their work with a whip, and giving them a lash at every word, I took the opportunity, one Sunday, when they were all together, to propose another method to them; promising, that if they would mind their business carefully,

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fully, and behave themselves like Christians, I would treat them all as such, Blacks as well as Whites; and, as a proof that I intended to keep my word, when I went with them to their work the next morning, I left my whip at home.

"I am ashamed to say, that the poor Blacks seemed more sensible of this kindness than the Whites; most of whom were such reprobate creatures, that there was no good to be got of them by fair means.

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"But this, instead of disappointing my design, as I at first apprehended, only promoted it; for the Blacks, who were many times more in number, finding themselves well used when they behaved well, and seeing the Whites treated with the severity they deserved, exerted such endeavours to merit a continuance of their happiness, that our plantation soon became the wonder of all the country, though sew or none had the goodness to imitate the conduct to which it was owing;

owing; for the steward, though he at first disapproved my scheme, as impracticable, no fooner faw it fucceed, than he took the same method also with the menand with the same success; so that when nothing was to be heard in the neighbouring fields but the cracks of the whip, and curfing and howling, our work went on with pleasure and happiness to all parties, flaves as well as managers.

" I must not though take the merit of this entirely to myself. I have say'd that most of the white women under my care were reprobate creatures; but they were not all such. On my first going to the plantation I found there a young girl, who was dying of a broken heart. fight naturally moved my compassion. I gave her every affiftance, every comfort in my power; and foon had the pleafure to fee that they were not without effect.

" The grateful creature omitted nothing in her power to flew her fense of my kindness. It was by her advice that I first

I first attempted to change the manner of treating the slaves; and by her affishance that I was able to bring it, at least, so suddenly, to effect. I wished the thing myself, to be sure, or I should not have undertaken it; but without her I should never have known how to go about it; for she was much more sensible, and better educated than I had been.

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"Nor was this my only obligation to her, she taught me to read and write, and to cast accounts; for God help me, I knew not a letter in a book when I went over; and this she did so secretly, that no one suspected what we were about, till I was perfect mistress of those most necessary parts of education; so that my having wanted them was never known. She also not only taught me how to read, but likewise gave me a taste for reading; especially the Holy Bible, with which she was perfectly well acquainted.

"You will wonder certainly, as I did at first, how such a person could have fallen fallen into so low a state for she had come over a convict as well as myself. Her ftory is as fhort as it was melancholy. She was the daughter of an officer who had given her the best education, but being killed in the wars, his widow, who had nothing but her miserable pension to support herself and five children, of whom this was the eldest, put her to wait upon a lady of quality, some of whose jewels being missing, the poor girl was accused by her of having stolen them, because she alone had access to the place where they were kept; and without any other proof, fentenced to transportation, for a crime of which with her dying breath she declared herself innocent; and that she was morally certain her lady had made away with the jewels herfelf to a jew, to pay some playdebts, which she was afraid to let her husband know off.—

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I T was our master's custom to visit all his plantations once in every year at the least, just when the crops were got in, both to see the produce, and give directions for the next year's cultivation.

"A fit of fickness having prevented his coming to our plantation the first year of my being there; when he came at the end of the second, his surprize at the alteration, which he saw in every thing belonging to him, is not to be expressed. There was almost double the work done, and in a better manner than ever; at the same time that his slaves were all in good health and good spirits, and received him with acclamations of joy.

"On his demanding the reason of so advantageous a change, the steward honestly honestly told him, that it was all owing to me. Whether he had ever taken notice of me before or not, I cannot say; but during the rest of his stay with us, he never let me out of his company; and when he was going away, asked me whether I had rather stay where I was, or go with him.

- "The look he gave me when he asked this question, was too significant to be misunderstood. I answered modestly, however, that it was not for me, whose fate was in his disposal for sive years, to presume to choose."
- "But—(faid he) if you had your choice?—"

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- If I had, fir—(I answered) I would certainly choose to live with you; because there I could have an opportunity of going to church, and performing the duties of my religion, which I have not here."
- "Though he faid no more to me at that time, I could plainly perceive that

he was affected by the answer I had made him; and waited the consequence with much anxiety.

"You must not imagine, my dear child, that the reason I gave him for wishing to leave the place I was in, was only a pretence. My tutoress, my friend, my best of friends had awoke me from the state of insensibility in which I had, till then been, in respect to those matters; and I will presume to say, given my mind a true turn to piety:

of the church of Rome, and taught to believe, that every one who was not of the same, was in a state of damnation. But this excellent young woman soon convinced me of my error; and that that very doctrine shewed it not to be the true church of Christ, the spirit of whose religion is universal charity; and who himself expressly forbids us to judge, lest we be judged.

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" I do not set up for great knowledge; out, I blefs God, I am able to diftinguish right from wrong, when lay'd before me. The Romans pretend that their religion is founded upon the facred Scriptures; but will not let the people read those Scriptures. What can this be for, but to prevent their impositions from being discovered? especially as it is expressly commanded to fearch the Scriptures, and hold by that which is best.

" For these reasons, I say, among many others which were shewn to me by my friend, I heartily renounced a religion which I had received in my infancy, in the fame manner as I should have received that of the Turks or Pagans, had I happened to be born in the countries where they are professed; and embraced that of the church of England, which my reason convinced me was really derived from those facred fountains of divine truth, because it inculcates the precepts taught in them, care you aligned of a theorems?

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"Our master having say'd no more to me at that time, I concluded that he had only spoken for his amusement; and therefore continued my occupation with as much diligence as ever, fully rewarded for all the pains I took, by the happy effects I daily saw from them.

"But what was my furprize about two months after; that is to say, when he had returned home from visiting all his plantations, and transacting the business of the year, to receive a letter from him, desiring that I would commit my charge to the person whom I thought most capable of conducting it in the manner I had done, and come to take upon me the care of his own family.

Such a change of situation, to be sure, was far from being unwelcome to me. But the thought of leaving my friend damped my joy so far, that if I had dared, I verily believe I would have given up all my hopes for the sake of her company; so faithfully was my heart united to her. "But

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mar whe "But even if I would have made such a sacrifice, she would not have permitted me. 'No—(say'd she, with tears streaming from her eyes)—My best, my only friend! Never shall my gain be built upon your loss. Pursue the road which Heaven leads you; while I remain here, and supply your place as well as I can, to the poor creatures whose benefactress you have so piously been.'

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"ON my arrival at my master's, I was immediately set at the head of his family, and treated in every respect as on a level with himself. What this led to was easily seen. At the end of a few days, he asked me one evening, as we were sitting alone together after supper, whether I was a married or a single woman? and on my answering the latter; whether I was under any engagement of any

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any kind, that might prevent my accepting an advantageous offer?

"As this question was rather equivocal, and I had made a covenant with my own soul, never to depart from the ways of virtue and honour again, I replied that I was perfectly free, both in thought and deed, to do any thing which my inclination and conscience should approve.

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"What do you mean by conscience?—
(he returned) Would you refuse to live with me as a wife, but without the ceremony of marriage, if I should secure you a genteel provision in case of our separating, either by death, or otherwise?

"That I would—and that I do, fir!—
(I answered, bursting into a flood of tears)—Though you were to give me all you are worth in the world, were it ten times as much as it is. That I have been unfortunate, I cannot deny (for the

the crime for which we are transported is always known.) But I have seen my sin, and I hope, made my peace with Heaven; which no consideration in this life shall ever tempt me to offend in the same manner again.—

"And now, my truely honoured master!—(I continued, falling on my knees, while the tears streamed down my cheeks) if this was the motive of your sending for me, I humbly beg, I beseech you in the name of that God, whose creatures we both equally are, to let me go back again to the plantation from which you have brought me, to those cares, which I know to be pleasing to him, as well as profitable to you; and to the latest hour of my life, I will never cease to pray for your prosperity and happiness, both here, and hereafter."

"The agony of foul in which I spoke, as well as the substance of what I say'd, seemed to affect him greatly. He arose directly from table; and walking a turn Vol. III.

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or two across the room, went away with-

The anxiety of mind in which I palled that night, is not to be described. However, it lasted not longer than that night. When we met at breakfast the next morning, he appeared to be as little at ease as myself, nor spoke a syllable to me, till I desired to know his commands for dinner; when, instead of making me any answer, 'Namy, (say'd he, fixing his eyes carnestly upon me, as if to read my soul)—I desire to know if what you say'd last night, is your unalterable resoducion?—

"Indeed, fir, it is !—(I answered, bursting again into rears) a resolution, which the fear of instant death should not make me break."—

But, suppose I should have a delign to marry you?—(say'd he)—Have you any objection to that?—

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Your honour is pleased to jest with your poor fervant !- (I replied) - I am fure fuch a great gentleman as you can have no fuch defign."-

- " But, what if I should ?- (he returned)-What would you do?"
- " I would gratefully devote every hour of my life, every thought of my foul-(I answered) to your pleasure and happiness."-
- "Well then !- (fay'd he, advancing to me, and throwing his arms around my neck) E'en let it be fo, Nanny! And in return, I promise you shall want nothing in my power to make you happy."
- "Extraordinary as fuch a marriage would feem here, there is nothing strange in them in those countries, where most of the inhabitants are sprung from the like. Mr. Cowskin would have had our's folemnized with great magnificence, but I diffuaded him, faying, it would be foon enough for me to take state upon me, when I should have

LIFE AND ADVENTURES MA8 have proved by my conduct, that I'deferved in the 11-1 haven room room

tere light is deese geneletren as von ogn " My first design in saying this, it is true, was to please him, as I knew his disposition was turned to economy. Not but that it was my own defire too, being embarraffed at the thought of appearing in fuch splendour, where I had but little more than two years before, been exposed to sale like a brute beast, till the nine days of wonder, as we fay, should first be past.

This answer raised me still higher in his favour, because, as he was pleased to fav, it shortened the delay of his happi-We were accordingly married that very evening; when I was put in possesfion of every thing I could be thought to wish for in this world.

"As I was fensible, that in my prefent state I should more than ever want the advice and instructions of my friend, I took the first opportunity to make it a request to my husband, that he would let

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wh wh her come and live with me; which he readily complied with.

""Our joy, at meeting, was equal to what we had suffered at our being parted. I was now truely happy in every respect, but on your account, of whom I could never think, without the deepest concern; though, as I knew not how to remedy myself, being utterly as a fraid to mention you to my husband, I own, I strove to think of you as little as I could.

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"In the mean time I profited so well by the instructions of my friend, that I did not disgrace the state to which I was raised; and behaved myself with such civility to every one I conversed with, which was quite contrary to the usual method, with people in my situation, who absurdly think to hide their former misery by haughtiness and pride, that I soon became loved and respected by all who knew me; particularly my husband, whose goodness to me knew no bounds,

the end of the year.

But this event, which completed his happiness, was far from having the same effect with me. The thought of the different state in which that son and you were, if you were still alive, haunted me night and day, to that degree, that all my care could not conceal my unhappiness.

attentive not to discover immediately, that something more than ordinary was the matter, often pressed me, in the tend derest manner, to let him know what it was; promising, if any way in his power, to remove the cause of my uncasiness. But I know not how it was: though I often resolved in his absence, to own the truth, and throw myself upon his goods ness, it was so delicate a thing, that the moment I saw him all my resolution failed me."

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had done which, I fell into froncing from whence no one present thought

" T Stroggled in this frate, will nature could support it no longer and I fell into a violent fever, in which my life was despaired of. In this situation, my friend, who knew my fecret convinced me, that it would be the cruelest injustice to you, not to open my heart to my hufband, and implore his protection for your; a protection, which his regard for me gave every reason in the world to think to be gratified by it) shulen con bloom ad

"This was an argument not to be refifted. The next time he came to my bed-fide, which was within the next half hour, as he scarcely ever left me; I took his hand, and bathing it with my tears, as I prefied my burning lips to it, acquainted him with the unhappy feeret, which had brought me, as he faw, tothe brink of the grave, the moment I 20

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had done which, I fell into fwoonings, from whence no one prefent thought I could ever recover.

" It is impossible to describe the tenderness and generosity with which he behaved to me, on the unexpected return of my lenles some hours after. He expostulated with me in the gentlest, kindest manner, for my flyness to entrust him, with what could be no offence to him; and promised to write directly to his correspondent in London (as he had before religiously promised my friend he would do, when he little thought of my living to be gratified by it) to have all possible enquiry made for you; and, in case you should happily be found, that you should be taken the same care of, as his own bearing and he shapedly, every less the

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heart, that I not only foon got the better of my fever, but also recovered more spirits; and, if I may be allowed to say so, more beauty likewise, in consequence of

of my peace of mind, than I had had before my illness, which added still to his fondness for me, convincing him, as he say'd, that I must make a good mother to his child, in case any accident should happen to him, who could feel so tenderly for one, who though innocently, had been the cause of so much misery to me.

I had not enjoyed this happiness long, when it was overturned by a miffortune impossible to be remedied. Our son, whose beauty was not more our pride and joy, than the admiration of every one who saw him, was taken ill of the small-pox, which falling on his eyes, deprived him of them both, in spite of all the care and skill of the physicians.

"I was now utterly inconfolable, and that for a reason which I did not dare to own to my husband, had it been to have saved me from instant death.

"I to!d you yesterday, that I first suspected you to be my ion, on account H 5 of

of the cast in your eyes, which I say'd had once made an impression on my heart, very different from what I selt now. How shall I own it, my to dearest child! That very cast in your eyes had given me such disgust, when you were scarcely a month old, at my breast, as in a great measure cooled my affection for you.

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"The thought of this instantly made me attribute my poor little Tonomy's missortune to a judgement upon me, for my injustice to you. This drove me almost to madness; I looked upon myself as the guilty cause of the greatest evil that could possibly have happened to my innocent child; for death, I was sensible, would have been a mercy to it. I refused to take sustenance. I could not sleep. In a word, I should certainly have made away with myself, had not my friend stepped between me and despair.

"In the mean while, the behaviour of my hufband was inexpressibly tender and kind. As he knew not the secret cause of my grief, grief, he attributed it folely to our uno happy child's misfortune, which endeared? me still more to him, But this, instead of leffening, only added to my wretchedness, when I thought of the irreparable; los he also had suffered for my crime.

"My friend, however, by foothing my affliction, found means at length to open my eyes to the danger of it. She shewed me the fin of prefuming to trace the judgements of Heaven; as well as the folly of thinking that to be a particular judgement, which was a common confequence of the difease in which is had happened. She shewed me, that by hazarding thus my own life, I only aggravated the injustice which I accused my felf of having done to you, by depriving you of your most natural, and best protection in this world. And lastly, the shewed me also the dreadful sin of perfifting to include a grief, which must prove fatal to the inaccent habe in my womb; and thereby aggravate my supposed injury

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES to my husband, by the additional loss of charalfore meliting maintenance in hite very

These arguments, as it was imposfible not to fee the justice of them, reffored me in some measure to my reason. I submitted humbly to the good pleasure of Heaven, and resolved to make amends to the dear sufferer, as far as possible, by my tenderness and care, for the loss which I knew not how to perfuade myfelf, at times, that he had not fuffered on my account. But Heaven foon made him better amends, by taking him to itself, a few days after it had given us another to the day of the state of the sta supply his place.

In the mean while, the anxiety of my foul, till I should receive some account of you (for my husband had faithfully performed his promise of writing) is not to be expressed. When I confidered the variety of dangers to which the lives of those unfortunate infants, who are thrown upon the charity of the publick, are exposed, my heart was ready

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W fu to die in me for fear. But then, on the other hand, when I reflected on the wonderful manner in which I, a milerable finner as I was, had experienced the goodness of Heaven, I flattered myself with an hope, that the same goodness would be extended to you also, to complete my happiness.

Rut these were only short lived hopes. On the arrival of the London sleet, my husband received an account from his friend, that on applying to the officers of the parish, and inspecting their books himself, he found the child he had been directed to enquire for, had suffered the common fate of its fellows, and died within a few months after it was sent to the work-house.

Though I was truely afflicted at this account, I foon experienced the melancholy confolation of holy David. If I had loft all hope of recovering you, I was valid freed from all feats for your future sufferings. I confidered you as having

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having finished your pilgrimage in an happy hour, and receiving the will of Heaven with relignation, found comfort in its many and great mercies, for a loss that could not be retrieved.

"This was the last thing that affected the peace of my mind, immediately upon my own account; but I was not long without sufficient cause of unhappiness, for all that.

books hankelly be. A by Health be had been directed to enquire for, and toffered

from this friend that or applying to their

THE first misfortune I experienced, was the loss of my ever dear and respected friend, whose heart, though supported by conscious innocence, sunk under the weight of indignant resentment, at the unmerited infamy which had been heaped upon her, and she died in my arms.

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In the beginning of the ninth year of my marciage, my husband had for violent a stroke of the pally, as, in spite of all human assistance, deprived him utterly of the use of his limbs; though Heaven in its mercy spared his speech and reason.

"This melancholy visitation phunged me into all the cares of the world, which the same power who lay'd them upon me, enabled me to support. I managed all my hufband's affairs, under his direction, extensive and complicated as they were. I vifited his plantations, inspected the produce, and directed the cultivation. I bought, fold, pay'd, and received every thing; and all with fuch fuccess. Heaven prospering every thing to which I put my hand, that at the end of the tenth year of my stewardship, his wealth was more than doubled; for I constantly fettled all his accounts at the end of the year, fo that the advance of his fortune was easily to to turn what are think the presented of

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But though our affairs prospered in this manner, we were far from being so happy in other respects. Our children, with whom Heaven had most liberally blessed us, and whose beauty and good qualities gave us the most pleasing hopes, died of one disorder or another, as regularly as they had been born; not one living beyond the twelfth year, except your sister Nanny, who was the fifth of eight.

"How severely I selt these dreadful strokes, I need not say. Had they come together, I certainly must have sunk under them; but falling thus separately, I had time to recover my reason after one loss, before another happened. Nor was this the only assistance I had. The very illness of my husband, which I had justly thought so heavy a missortune at first, now afforded me the greatest relief, by diverting my attention to the affairs committed to my care; so powerful is Heaven to turn what we think the greatest evils,

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to our advantage, when we pay just resignation to its will.

But this very reason, which assisted me to support the loss of my children, made my poor husband sink under it; having nothing to occupy his thoughts, and prevent them from dwelling upon the melancholy subject, he expired in my arms, in the twentieth year of our marriage, having by his will divided his fortune equally between his daughter and me; giving as his reason, that it was but justice to leave to my own disposal, what had been acquired by myself.

The tears of every one who had known him, bore the best testimony to his virtues. His friends lamented; but his poor slaves were inconsolable for a death which deprived them of a father, rather than a master.

my heart, that I resolved to quit a place, where I no longer had any thing dear to me.

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me. I therefore called in all the money due to us, and disposed of all our distant plantations, which were in fuch excellent condition, and had been fo remarkably successful for a number of years, that they brought a price exceeding my utmost expectations; referving only those, which being in the centre of the province, were out of danger of those accidents to which. the others were fubject. The income of thefe I divided with my daughter alfo, during my own life, and fettled the inheritance of them upon her; and in case of her dying without children, or having made any other disposal of them; then to go to my hufband's family, not thinking it would be just in me, to apply to my own use, what had been acquired by the labour and industry of his ancestors, while there were any of their descendants to enjoy it.

"The money I raised in this manner, amounting to near an hundred thousand pounds sterling. I have placed in the funds, half of it in the name of my daughter,

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daughter, and the other half in my own; for I have made her absolute mishress of herself and her fortune in every respect, nor desiring to have the least influence over her, but that of reason and affection. As for our estates, the income, which is two thousand pounds sterling, is a common stock, to defray the expences of our living; while our money in the funds accumulates daily.

"I have thus, my dear child, given you a faithful account of mylelf to this hour; by which you will fee how wonderfully Heaven heads us, as it were by the hand; to fulfil its own good pleafure: What fortune you may have received from Mr. Janiper, I know nor; but I suppose the offer I made you of the half of mine; dannot be unacceptable. That you may have as soon as you please; and the other half, at my death, if you do not give me reason to have other sentiments for you, than I have at present. And this, I hope, you will think a recompence for

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His fifter joining them just then, put a stop to the effusions of his gratitude, for fuch a folid proof of generous af-The conversation then turned upon the best method of keeping up their The 'squire proposed at first intimacy. their living together; but this his mother absolutely refused. As it was improper for them to declare their connection, she say'd, the world would naturally form conjectures injurious to her character, or that of her daughter, on their taking such a step; though, if that was not the case, she could never think of laying him under fuch a restraint, as the company of a woman of her years must necessarily be upon a young man of his, " Let us never meet, my dear (fay'd fhe) but from choice; and then our meetings will be always agreeable." has on holida hastavia

After a variety of schemes to countenance the intimacy they proposed, to all of of which there lay the same objection of their being founded in untruth, a thought occurred to the 'squire, which, if not absolutely clear of it, evaded it at least, the best of any they could find.

This was, that Mrsi Gowskin should permit herself to be called the fifter of Mr. Juniper; a fiction that was in no danger of being detected, his family being utterly unknown; to which she was with great difficulty prevailed upon to agree, on our hero's affuring her, that according to the old civil and canon laws, fuch a relation had actually sublisted between them, in consequence of his adopting her fond the yet a manning a hudro races he receiped a considerable furt in

hand, to gurine pleasure, in whatever

indirection, arrestable his federate, as it reproved the competiant condition, to it also put every theorets of the other out of his

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of which there lay the fame objection of

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the gave her son the next day, reestablished his affairs in a more flourishing
state than ever. Not that he held it necessary to discharge all his debts; as that
would have consumed the whole of his
eash, and lest him only his income.
Those, for which he was pressed, he
pay'd off directly, together with the arrears of interest due to his mortgages,
letting the mortgages stand over to another opportunity; by which management he retained a considerable sum in
hand, to pursue pleasure, in whatever
shape she should tempt his passions.

The fuccess, which had thus, though indirectly, attended his scheme, as it removed the immediate occasion, so it also put every thought of the other out of his head; and he pushed on in his old career with

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OF JUNIPER JACK.

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with redoubled ardour, equally forgetful of the past, and regardless of the future; his mind being too much taken up with the present moment, to look either back or forward.

Various reasons forbid my entening into a minute detail of all the occurrences of fuch allife. It would break the plan of this most correct work, which is to give to posterity the history of one man, not of the age. Nor does the pleasure which malignity might find in the perufal, weigh with me equally with the pain, I know it must give to benevolence. I shall therefore only give the general heads, and leave the chapters to be filled up by some of our workers in fentiment and fympathy, to whom it will afford ample scope for uniting pleasure with profit; that is to fay, profit to the writer, and pleasure to the youthful reader, by a display of those tender scenes, those glowing strokes of nature, which to strongly affect the opening mind, and direct inexperience by example,

example, to the gratification of the paf-

He bubbled, and was bubbled. He borrowed, without deligning to pay. He lent, without expecting to be pay'd. He professed what he meant not. He suffered himself to be duped by professions he saw through. He talked of honour, in the moment he was committing the basest villainy; and was ready to face death, in defence of a character, to which every action of his life gave the lie. In a word; he was a man of fashion.

Not that I mean to pass over all his exploits indiscriminately, during this period either. Such of them as throw any new light upon his character, or from their more particular relation to himself, concurred in ruling the events of his life, and leading to the great catastrophe, shall have their deserved place in this accurate history. Had other historians sisted their matter with like care, many an unwieldy folio,

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folio, that now fleeps in cobwebs on the loaded shelf, would be bustling about in the world in a brace of twelves; or perhaps honoured with a place in the pocket, in the still more active shape of a pamphlet.

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Gratitude for the timely beneficence of his mother, and perhaps a prudential eye to further favours, made Juniper pay the most respectful attention to her and his He immediately provided them an house in a more genteel neighbourhood, and introduced them to a genteel acquaintance of their own fex; with whom Mrs. Cowskin's fortune outweighed every objection from her story, which could not be long concealed, for the same reason, that the profusion of his expence gained him the most welcome reception, notwithstanding the profligacy of his characten

But their relish for this scene wore off with its novelty. They were too much out of their element to be at eafe. Vol. III.

ease, Miss Cowskin felt her deficiency in the forms, her want of acquaintance with the topicks of polite converfation, too delicately, to find pleafure in company where she could only serve as a cypher to make up the number; while her mother, though she despised those matters too much to give herfelf any concern about them, foon found that she was not a fufficient adept in the mysterious science of gaming, to defend herfelf from being pillaged by every nimblefingered sharper of fashion, at the same time that she had neither patience, nor politeness enough to look pleased, or forbear speaking when she faw it. She therefore directly quitted the card-table; and foon after dropped a fociety. in which she found that the only sphere allotted to her. en besidentario

And fortunate was it for her that she did so. For no sooner was it known, that she would play no more, than her wealth lost all its weight; and there appeared

peared fomething fo monstrous in fuch a creature's having the affurance to thrust herself into good company, that she would have been flut out, had she not faved herself from the affront, and been before-hand with them, by staying away.

Such an affair could not be long a secret to one so universally conversant with the polite world as our hero, who felt his own good fame fo deeply wounded through that of his aunt, that he resolved to take the most signal revenge; nor was he long at a loss how, or on whom to wreak it.

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CHAP. VIII.

ONE of the most malignant propagators of Mrs. Cowskin's story, was a lady of quality, who having patched up a worn-out reputation by a late marriage, endeavoured now to brow-beat scandal, by the severity with which she railed at vice; and pay herself in kind, for all the infamy she had suffered.

As the facred laws of politeness for-bade the matter's being mentioned directly in our hero's presence, he affected not to have heard any thing of it; and instead of making reprisals for the injury done to the honour of his family, by an attack upon her character, which he knew would be no more attended to than the second part of an old song, cultivated her acquaintance with particular assiduity; making it a point to cut in always at her table, and indulging her with every bet

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pofi pofi plea the defired, bowever against the odds, till he brought her to consider him as absolutely her own property, so far as to grudge the least picking of the pigeon to any one else: a conduct, by which he not only disarmed her tongue against his aunt, but also made her change her note once more, from railing to respect, to ingratiate herself the better with him.

But this recantation was far from being all he had in view. No sooner had he fixed her in this mind, than meeting her one evening at a route, whither some accident had prevented her coming, till all the tables were made, he took occasion to propose a party of picquet, merely to amuse her, till there should be room made for her, or more company arrive.

As she valued herself particularly on her strength in this game, it may be supposed that she readily agreed to his proposal, when he play'd his cards so well to please her, that she greedily swallowed

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the bait; and on her being summoned to her own set, who had made room for her, told him in an half whisper, for she would not refuse going, for sear of having her match too much taken notice of, that if he would take a family dinner with her the next day, when she should be alone, she would give him his revenge in the evening.

The immediate event of this appointment scarce need be told. Fortune proved so favourable, or perhaps so obedient to him, though he exerted his command over her with such address, as would have deceived suspicion itself; that he not only won all her money, but also scored her up a debt, which he was certain she would never be able to pay.

Her fituation, when with an infulting profession of concern for her bad luck, he declined pushing his success any farther, may be better conceived than defcribed.

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"Good Heaven! Mr. Juniper (fay'd fhe, bursting into tears) how has this happened; and what must I do? I am utterly unable to pay you at present; and if such a thing should come to be known, I can never show my face in company again."—

"How can it be known, my dear madam?—(he answered)—Or why should your ladyship give yourself concern about a trisse, which a more lucky hour may so easily recover? What do you say? I accepted your challenge yesterday; will you accept mine now, and meet me to-morrow evening, to try your fortune once more, at a place I will name; for I see this is unfavourable to you."

The look which accompanied these words was too expressive to be misunderstood by a person of her experience. "Bless me, Mr. Juniper!—(she replied, blushing with surprize) What can you mean? It is not possible, surely, that you can be serious?—"

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There are certain subjects, upon which the conversation, however interesting and agreeable to the parties, at the time, will not bear repetition. I shall therefore wave entering farther into this; and only fay, that far from being rejected, it might probably have been embraced that very moment, had not the delicacy of his paffion, or some other reason, made him be fatisfied to let her fix the next evening but one; when with all the coyness, the amourous reluctance of youthful innocence, she consented to meet him at a bagnio, as the place where there could be the least suspicion of a lady of her rank's going.

This interval appeared an age to both nymph and swain, though from motives of a very different nature. If he was impatient for the accomplishment of his scheme, she was no less so, on another account. It was so long since such a tribute had been pay'd to her charms, that it had all the recommendation of novelty.

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OF JUNIPER-JACK. novelty. Beside her delicate sense of honour could not be fatisfied, till its debt should be pay'd.

Tricking herself out, therefore, in the loofest and most elegant undress, she went to pay a visit, where she could dispense with ceremony; and recollecting there, that she had business at her milliner's, repaired to the place of affignation in and hackney-chair; where her delicacy was rather hurt, not to find her lover fopunctual as the ardour of his professions had given her reason to expect; though in her extreme modesty, she had herself somewhat over-stay'd her time...

But she was not left to pant long in impatience. She had scarce unpinned her handkerchief, and adjusted her tucker, when, whom should she see enter the room, but her husband, with his sword drawn in his hand. Conscious guilt added double terrours to the rage that frowned in his looks. She gave an helpless shriek,... and

I. 5

LIFE AND ADVENTURES and funk back in her chair, already dead in apprehension.

But she was soon relieved from this immediate fear. Just as he was turning to shut the door, in rushed another female, the violence of whose rage entirely fuspended his. This was a lady of his wife's most intimate acquaintance, who, to keep him from going aftray, had, out of pure friendship to her, given him possession of her person, in return for that of his purse, to preserve which entirely to herself, the watched his motions with all the vigilance of jealous love.

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CHAP. IX.

The accidental circumstance of his lady's holding down her head for shame, preventing her dear friend from recognizing her, she gave a loose to her rage, upbraiding him in the plainest terms, with his base insidelity in wronging her passion, and endangering her health, by running thus after common prostitutes; for no other could she suspect, she say'd, of making an assignation in such an infamous place.

As the first note of her voice discovered her to her friend, so did the burthen of her song restore her wonted presence of mind, and give her her cue. As soon, therefore, as she had railed herself out of breath, — "I wonder, madam, (say'd her ladyship, rising from her chair, and throwing her eyes around, with all the dignity of virtue) " how I 6. "you

" you can presume to use the word infi-" delity, without fear of its choaking " you; and to what pretence you both " will have recourse, to palliate the base-" ness of your conduct to me? I have " long fince been informed of this wicked " intercourse; but would not believe it, " till I should have the testimony of my " own fenses. That proof I now have, " to my unspeakable diftress. But I will " not fubmit tamely to fuch abuse. "What redress I can obtain from the " law against you, sir, I do not know; " but this much is in my power! I will " proclaim my wrongs to the world; " and make you, at least, madam, as « infamous, as you have made me un-" happy."-Saying which, 'fhe moved majestically toward the door, to go away.

So unexpected a rencounter threw her friend into such a flurry, that she had not power to make her any reply. But the husband, who had recovered from the suprize

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furprize that had hitherto kept him mute, felt not himself under the same embarrassment.—" Hold, madam!—(say'd he, "stepping before her) Cleverly as you think you have turned the tables upon me, there is one point to be cleared up, before I shall let your ladyship give me the slip; which is, What business brought you to this place?"—

"My buliness—(she answered haughti"ly) was to catch you, and that vile
"woman, in consequence of information
"I had received, that you had made
"an appointment to meet here this
"evening."

"Eh! recrimination too!— (he re"turned)—And so, I presume it was
"joy at your success, that made you cry
"out on seeing me; but this fine scheme,
"much as you may think of it, will
"hardly serve your turn at least. This
"letter will prove that you came on a
"very different errand; and as I am
"pretty sure that your beauty was not
"the

"the attraction that could procure you
"a gallant at this time of day, I will
"directly take fuch measures as shall spoil
"your sport for the future. You can
"make me wear horns, I allow; but
you shall not make me pay your fellows
for putting them on."

All her presence of mind, all her fortitude failed her, on his mentioning a letter, to such a degree, that she was not able to make any reply to this, the highest affront possible to be given to woman. She imagined it to be one which she had written to her lover the day before, to change the place of assignation, from the bagnio he had named, to this, for reasons best known to herself; and concluding that all her secrets were betrayed, burst into a slood of tears, unable to speak a word, either in her own desence, or to mitigate his rage.

But fortune sent her an advocate she could not have expected. Her friend, who had by this time shaken off the lit-

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OF JUNIPER-JACK. 183
the flurry with which this unexpected meeting had struck her, instantly faw, that if the affair was not directly smothered, the whole must come out; and her own reputation be ruined of course, as well as that of her friend.

Catching him therefore by the breaft, " Flold a moment—(lay'd lhe)—and do not by your own precipitancy do more " milchief than perhaps you mean; or " may be able to repair. There is some " myllery in this matter, which must be " enquired into, before you proceed any " farther. What letter is that in your " hand?"-Then taking it from him, " Eh! (fay'd the, flarting the moment the call her eye upon it) " Is it possible !" Saying which, the pulled another letter out of her pocket, and comparing them, " And pray — (The continued) — how " came you by this?"ture warning by

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"door this morning (he answered) by
"a porter,

" a porter, who vanished before I could ask who had sent him."—

" I said there was a mystery in the es matter !- (fay'd she, as soon as she had run her eye over the letter) " and a " mystery of malice and mischief it is. "Look at the writing of these two. " Whoever fent the one to you, fent me " this other, to inform me, that you were " to meet a lady here at this time; in " consequence of which I came. Now, " as this evidently was done, only with " a defign to embroil, and expose us " all; I'd see the base incendiary hanged es as high as Haman, before I'd gratify Whomever her ladyship may " him. " have come to meet, therefore, for her " crying out on feeing you, as well as her present confusion, sufficiently refutes her story, as no real harm as hapse pened, and I am perfuaded the will " take warning by this escape, and not " fall into the like folly again, the best way is to fay nothing at all of the mar"

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ter; for, in fact, what can you get by

" making it known, but disgrace, in

" which others must also bear a part?

" There is nothing in her coming here,

" that the law can take hold of, to give

" you satisfaction of any kind,"-

"And now, my dear madam!—
(turning to her ladyship, who had stood
silent all this while)—I hope you will
"acknowlege that I am your friend still;

" and restore me to that place in your

" esteem, which it has ever been my

"highest ambition to merit."—At which words, the two friends slew into each other's arms, and proved the sincerity of their regard, by a tender embrace.

The husband had stood all this time in a brown study, considering his case, with Sir John Brute; and would probably have determined it in the same manner, as well as from the same motives, without even desiring to know who was his happy rival in his lady's affections, whether from compliment to her, or care for himself,

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the reader is left to judge, when his meditations were disturbed by the enterance of two or three of his friends, whom he had prudently brought with him, to be witnesses of the expected discovery, as well as to protect him from any difagreeable confequences that might attend it; for either, or both of which purposes, it had been agreed, that they should wait in a coach at the door for a few minutes; when, if he did not return to them, they were to follow him. which was --- think a billioleide to this had

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CHAP. X.

hollower literated by all the manager HE surprize of the two ladies, at fo untimely an intrusion, need not be told. Her ladyship's friend, however, was not to be disconcerted by such a trifle; after having settled a point of so much greater importance. She no sooner faw who they were, therefore, than rightly conjecturing the cause of their coming, " So, gentlemen!—(fay'd she, with an eafy fmile, and unembarraffed countenance) you are come in good time to " have a laugh at the fools; but I hope " you will complete the proverb, and " fay nothing; as one would not with " to be laughed at by all the world, "neither.

"Sir Thomas, and my lady here, have been finely humm'd (I think that's the elegant title given to fuch ingenious pieces of wit as this, which has been "play'd

" play'd off upon them) and fent here to " catch each other. The same kind " friend who fent him the information. " fent her also a letter of the like import, " in consequence of which, she called es upon me (for secrets of so delicate a of nature, you know, fhould be entrufted " only to the dearest friends) and bringing me with her, we lay in wait till he " should arrive. Here are both the let-" ters; you fee the hand is exactly the fame."-Saying which, fhe gave them his letter; and opening her own, in which there was nothing, that might not as well have been written to a wife, as a mistress, held it carefully in her hand to conceal the address, while they compared the two together. n bluce and re

So clear a proof, especially as the husband assented, left not a shadow of doubt. They all joined in the laugh, at such a whimsical trick; and having drank a glass of wine, to finish the frolick in the character of the place, were march-

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ing off with flying colours, when the door of the next room opening just as they were passing it, discovered half a dozen of those souls of sire, who, Drawcansir-like, holding themselves entitled to do what they please, merely because they dare, saluted the ladies by name, with, "Hab! "RECRIMINATION too, my lady!—Well" turned off, miss."—

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Gross as such an insult was, the gentlemen no sooner saw who the offenders were, than their delicate care of the ladies reputation, made them choose to put up with it, rather than involve them in a riot in such a place. They hurried away, therefore, as if unconcerned in what had happened, amid a peal of laughter, that made the house ring.

Though doubtless, the sagacious reader has all along smelled our hero at the bottom of this mischief, I still hold it my duty, as an historian, to leave nothing to conjecture, in a work of this importance; a duty, which if duely observed by all

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many an heavy head from the trouble of writing, as well as many a tired one from reading those enormous heaps of notes and commentaries, which, like a dropsy, swell the body of the work to twice its natural bulk, with matter better out of it, than in, if indeed the opens were not left for that very purpose; to give the criticks an opportunity to shew their learning, and earn a bit of bread, in pursuance of the old proverb, that all trades must live.

When our hero had made the affignation with her ladyship, nothing was farther from his thoughts than the violation of her marriage vow; his design being only to make her as infamous, as she had been at so much pains to make his mother; which would answer the double purpose of gratifying his resentment, and throwing a new tub to the whale.

To effect this, therefore, he had fent those letters to the husband, and his lady's friend, frie flra wa lou mig as offe of bar her not affa

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friend, to whose connection he was no stranger (as indeed, no man of the age was more universally read in the scandalous chronicle than himself) that she too might come in for her share of the score, as she had borne her part in giving the offence; and then, as if he knew nothing of the matter, resolved to make her husband's going, a pretence for demanding her ladyship's debt; and in case it should not be immediately pay'd, publishing the affair, as a scheme lay'd for extorting money from him, to avoid a prosecution; as he had placed a set of his companions to be witnesses for him, should it be attempted to deny the charge.

Though the ladies were at first considerably lowered in their spirits, by the insult they had received from those rioters in the bagnio, as it convinced them their secret was known to more than they wished, and would consequently be soon spread over the whole town; they consoled themselves with the thought, that from

from the nature of the affair, the testimony of the husband and his friends, would sufficiently vindicate them in the sight of the polite world; where, even if any doubts of the truth should remain, they had companions enough to keep them in countenance; their apprehensions never reaching so far as the plot, sounded upon this very circumstance.

But all these pleasing hopes were soon blasted. As her ladyship was sitting at breakfast the next morning, with her husband, in the height of connubial harmony, she was surprized by a visit from her lover.

Though she was far from guessing hiserrand, there was something so ungenteel, so outre, in being caught in such a tête à tête, as embarrassed her not a little. But her concern was soon diverted to a more serious object, when he asked her, with a determined look, for the money he had won of her.

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The aftonishment of the loving couple, at such an attack, is not to be described. The husband, too posite to pry into a lady's secrets, got up, and left the room, without saying a word; while she burst into a slood of tears.

But they, though the most formidable weapon of woman, had no effect upon our hero. He only repeated his demand in a severer tone; and on her attempting to expostulate with him, upbraided her with the base design of betraying him to her husband, of which he had received notice, he say'd, just in time to save him from falling into the snare; a baseness that made her unworthy of the tenderness and complaisance due to her rank and sex.—With which words he left her , without deigning to wait for a reply.

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All his scheme now took effect. He whispered the story that very evening at a route, from whence it was spread over the town in a few hours, with some good-natured additions from every mouth it Vol. III. K passed

passed through. Nor had her husband's testimony the weight she had expected, when opposed by that of the company in the next room; and especially by her own letter to change the place of assignation; which her lover afferted, she had done, thinking the other unsit for her purpose, in consequence of his having told her, that the people who kept it were particularly attached to him.

This was a proof not to be controwerted. The two unfortunate ladies were obliged to hide their diminished heads till the nine days of wonder were over, and some new object jostled them out of scandal's mouth.

Mrs. Cowskin at first enjoyed the ruin of her maligner's reputation with keenness; but when, in a cooler moment, she came to reslect on the means by which it had been effected, for to enhance his merit, he told her the whole, her heart revolted at such a complication of persidy, deceit, and

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OF JUNIPER-JACK. 195 and fallshood; nor could hold it justifiable by any end.

This fet her upon a closer scrutiny into his conduct; the result of which was far from being favourable to him. As the obliquity of his eyes had formerly lost him her affection, so did that of his soul now injure him greatly in her esteem.

Incapable, however, of such sentiments himself, he never suspected, much less endeavoured, to obviate their effect upon her. On the contrary, he gave sull scope to his genius, in every licentious, every expensive pursuit, till he brought himself again to the brink of ruin.

This situation, nevertheless, was not so embarrassing to him now, as it had been before. He thought himself secure of a resource from the same quarter, though he was not a little at a loss how to apply for it with a good grace; having not only slackened greatly in his attention to her for a considerable time, on account

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of some admonitory remarks, which she had occasionally taken the liberty to make on his conduct; but also retorted her advice, with such sarcastick allusions to her own story, such keenness of ridicule on the impoliteness of her manners, as often put her temper to the utmost stretch; and left a sting that rankled in her heart.

Incapable, however, of inch (encinence nimicit, he never suspecied, muchids endeavoured; to obvitte mer effect upon her. On the contrary, he gave full trope to his genius; in every licentions.

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This intention, nevertheless, was not to embarradisty to him now, as in had been before the course of a before the three the same of the same three th

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES

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BOOK IV.

CHAPTER

As he was fitting with her one morning in ferious chat, which he had designedly led to the subjects he knew she liked most, in order to raise himself in her favour, by agreeing with her in opinion—" Cousin Juniper! (say'd she, fixing her eyes stedfastly upon him) "I have something to tell "you that you may not expect. Both your sister and I are quite tired of this noisy place. We were neither of us K 3 "born.

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born for a life of fuch vanity, dif-" fipation, and indeed, wickedness of " every kind. We have, therefore, re-". folved to go back to our own coun-" try; I mean, to the country that gave " her birth, and me a new life; where, " if we cannot fee fo much splendour, " we shall at least meet the respect our " actions deferve, without prostituting " both reason and virtue to obtain it, as " a person is obliged to do here, to en-" title one's felf to common civility: " and for this purpole, I have fettled " my affairs, and made all the necessary or preparations for going by the first op-"portunity. Everal in galaxim

Juniper's surprize, at this equally unexpected and unwelcome news, was so great, that it was some time before he had power to make her any reply. The disappointment of his present hopes, and the ruin with which that must be attended, instantly stashed upon him. Or if he could succeed so far with his mother, as to escape this

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this, the further expectation he had founded on the disposal of his fister in marinage to a noble peer, with whom he was actually in treaty about it, at that very time, for the moderate consideration of half her fortune, must inevitably be overturned; for though he had at first flattered himself with the thought of succeeding to the whole at her death, he was grown weary of waiting for a dead person's shoes; especially since her getting happily through the small-pox, had deprived him of his best hope.

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Recollecting himself, however, at length, "I must not pretend, my dearest "madam!—(he answered, taking her hand, and kissing it fondly)—" to dissemble either my astonishment, or consecrn, at so extraordinary a piece of news; though I flatter myself that your resolution is not unalterably fixed. If you dislike the way of living in London, in defence of which I will readily allow, that there is not K 4 "much

"much beside prejudice to be pleaded, surely there are other towns that are not liable to the same objections; where the difference in the manners of the people is as great as in the extent of the scene. Or you may retire totally into the country; where your fortune will entitle you to set the mode your-felf, so that you will meet with nothing disagreeable to you. Any thing, any place must be preferable to going back to such an herd of savages.

Beside, you should consider my sister.

"This is her natural sphere. Her beauty,

merit, and fortune give her a right to

look up to the first man in the kingdom.

Think then what an injury, I may even

fay, injustice, it would be to her, to take

her away from so happy a prospect.

Forgive my warmth: I am interested

"in what I say. I cannot bear the thought of losing you, especially in a manner so much to your own loss."

"Indeed, my dear mother, you must

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not think of leaving us. Never, never will we part again." Good and aid to and made memers place.

The effect of a speech depends in a great measure, on our respect for the speaker; and her's he had entirely forfeited. Far from being moved by hisarguments, especially the last, it was to leave him, to be freed from the pain of being a witness to his profligacy, that first suggested to her the thought of going.

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HE attentive reader must certainly remember, that her fon had not only loft her affection, but even incurred her hatred, before he could do any thing to merit it. Such impressions are rarely, or never effaced. Though the had fincerely repented of her conduct to him, her concern arose from religious motives, not from a return of affection; and if, in the first emotions of nature, on her finding him to unexpectedly, the had felt mobile is a flow stoll Kits D we sham fome

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fome tender sentiments, the immorality of his life soon checked their growth, and made them give place to her former difregard. Perhaps too, she was not forry to find that disregard, however unjust at the time, now in appearance justified by his conduct. Perhaps her vanity (for notwithstanding all her improvements, Mrs. Cowskin was still a woman) was slattered to think her hatred had proceeded from something like prescience, rather than prejudice.

She answered him therefore coldly, that the had a just fense of the regard he expressed both for her and her daughter, though fo it was, that she could not yield to his opinion. As for herfelf, the was really as much out of her element, as is a fish out of water. She knew not how to converse with people, who never spoke as they thought themselves; and laughed at those who did .- That if those to whom the was going, were not quite fo polite; neither were they fo bad as he might think. They were, as they had been made by God, whose work is seldom a And to be amended.-

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And then, for my daughter !-- (the continued)-" even to suppose that the " should marry in the style you mention, " what can she expect but unhappiness and contempt, certain that the only " motive to fuch marriages is fortune; " on the acquisition of which, she would " be no more thought of, except as an " incumberance and diffrace? Though, " could she hope, however improbably, to meet a man who might regard her-" felf, the married state is in such dis-" repute here, from the universal abuse " of it, that virtue itself is not safe from " flander; nor the most prudent conduct " able to guard against its effects. will fly therefore from politeness to " plain honesty, even though we are forced to feek it among favages.

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"Though after all, pray what is this politeness upon which you set so high a value? Is it any thing more than bypocrify and grimace? To force nuture, and contradict truth in every word and K 6 " action?

" action? To speak as you do not think, and act as you do not like? To cover batred in smiles; and give poison with a compliment? To turn night into day; make a trade of cheating; follow idleness to fatigue, and pleasure till it becomes insipid, and ends in ruin.

As for what you fay, of my fetting the mode in a more contracted sphere, " it is all folly. Can I expect to do " more in a village, than your fovereign can in his capital? Does he not practife every virtue? Is not his family a picture, a pattern of domestick harmony and happiness; and yet who follows his example?—No, no; I am not vain enough to feed fuch a foolish hope, " I will leave a place where morality is " turned into ridicule, and religion made " a cloak for dishonesty; though I should be obliged henceforth to herd with " favages, as you are pleafed to call Trace of the Property 61 them."

CHAP.

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HE determined manner in which the fay'd this, convinced him that his faying more at that time, would only picque her pride, to perfift with greater obstinacy in her purpose. The point, however, was of too great importance to be given up for one repulse; or indeed, at all, while there was any possibility of fuccess. The question was, how to direct his attack in the manner most likely to fucceed, in a more favourable moment; nor was he long at a loss what to fix which he knew his mother would noon

He attributed his mother's aversion to politeness, to a consciousness of her own deficiency in it; a despair of ever being able to acquire it. It is a confolation under want, to think the thing wanted of no worth, should one some or mill bits

He also considered, that though from age, or prejudice of education, the might be proof to the fashionable pleasures, neither was the cafe fo with her daughter. She had not only a tafte to diffinguish, but also the warmth of youth, to give her a relish for them. On her, therefore, he refolved to make his utmost effort, not doubting but if he could bring her over to his party, her mother would foon follow, as he knew the influence the had on her from parental affection; which, in such an affair as this, would also be aided by the confideration of her independence:

Accordingly, as foon as the joined them, he proposed a walk in the Park, in which he knew his mother would not bear them company, having lately hurt her foot, when he exerted all his powers to fet the life from which the was going to be ravished, and that she was going to, in the contrast most likely to affect a youthful mind; to inflame the paffions, and turn prudence into ridicule.

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But all his words were spoken to the winds. She listened to him with complaifance; and then, without even attempting to reply to his arguments, told him with an air of confidence, that their removal was not more agreeable to her mother, than to herfelf; as it would afford her an opportunity of giving her hand, as the had long fince given her heart, to the fon of a worthy clergyman, in the neighbourhood of their principal estate, who had come to England, to purfue his studies at Oxford, and was now going back in the same ship with them; his father having made it a request, that he might have the happiness of performing the ceremony of a marriage to pleating to his heart.

This was a piece of news not more unwelcome than furprizing to him, as he had never formed the flightest suspicion of any such thing, though he had frequently seen her and her lover together, so carefully had they guarded their very looks against him; and was too well acquainted

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quainted with the female heart, to think of prevailing against the united force of prejudice in age, and passion in youth.

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As fomething however must be done, to prevent the ruin that hung over him, instead of urging any farther arguments to change their resolution, he made a merit of facrificing his own inclination to their's; and in the most obliging manner offered his services to promote, what he at the same time owned, he would much rather prevent.

His conduct on this occasion was confirmmately artful. He was never from them a minute, that he might not lose, as he say'd, any part of the short-lived happiness which remained to him. All his vivacity utterly forsook him. He watched every motion, every glance of their eyes; and took care that at every turn they should catch his fixed upon them, with an air of melancholy fondness.

Nor did he confine his attention to them. He treated his fifter's lover, who had had quitted Oxford, and was now seldom from them, with the kind freedom and affection of a brother; advising him from experience, and often at his own cost; and painting the consequences of folly and vice in such strong and lively colours, as would have done credit to the first preacher of the age; at the same time that he always by the most delicate hints, attributed his own sense of them to the precepts and example of his mother.

This was the very quintessence of slattery. Neither of them was proof to such an attack. His sister, in particular, was so pleased with the approbation of her choice, implied in his behaviour to her lover, that she held him dearer than ever; and if it did not actually reconcile him to his mother's affection and esteem, it softened in a great measure the shade of his faults; and interesting her vanity in his favour, awoke some of those tender feelings, of which nature can never be entirely divested.

CHAP.

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BUT though this was a confiderable advance, the main point hung still in suspense, as his mother never mentioned a syllable of money-matters to him; nor gave him the least encouragement to hope she designed him any further favours in that way. To the contrary, on his making an offer of his service in the management of her affairs, she told him dryly, that she had already given them in charge to one, who by his good conduct of his own, gave her reason to expect that he would conduct her's as well.

Such a stroke hit too home not to be felt. However, this was no time for standing upon punctilio. He was in, and must wade through, or sink for ever, and that also, without loss of time, as the day fixed for her departure began to draw nigh.

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Far from being abashed therefore at the rebuke, he instantly resolved to make it the introduction to that application which he had been so long watching for an opportunity to make; and which he thought would come better thus occasionally, than if formally made of set purpose.

Accordingly, after a moment's pause—"
"I wish, madam (said he, with an undissembled air of embarrassment)—" I
"could plead the same merit to recommend me, as I then should not be under the unhappy necessity of troubling "you for affistance, to repair the defrangement, which the want of such conduct has made in my affairs."

So! (she replied, affecting not to understand what she had long expected)—
I am glad to see you have recovered your spirits. I was afraid we should have had no more of your pleasantry,

before we parted."

"Pleasantry, madam!—(he answered, blushing)—" would badly become the

" the fituation I am in, which is such, " that if you do not interpose in my fa-" vour, I shall be irretrievably ruined,

" before I am many days older."

" Good Heaven! (fhe exclaimed with warmth)—young man, what do you

" mean? It is but a few years fince I

" gave you a fum of money, fufficient to

" have made any man in his fenfes, eafy

" for his whole life. But, if you are

" mad, I am not; nor yet fool enough

" to ruin myfelf, merely to feed your

" vicious extravagancies."

Before he could make her any reply, his fifter entered, and feeing him in confusion, and her mother in 'a rage, enquired anxiously, what was the matter; when the latter informed her, adding with an oath, that she would not give him a shilling, let what would become of him. " have ball no more of

Nothing but ruin staring him in the face, could have made him bear the haughty air with which this was faid, even 0003 27

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even from the mother who bore him. Confidering, however, that to show a refentment, which could hurt only himfelf, would be rashness, not resolution,-" I " am unhappy, madam—(he returned) " to have expressed myself in a manner " that could be fo much mifunderstood. "When I applied for your affiftance " (and to whom else could I apply with " equal propriety, as to a mother, of " whose generous kindness I had experi-" enced fuch proof) I neither asked, nor " expected that you should give me any " thing. All I meant was, that you " should lend me wherewithal to pay my " debts, upon the same security which " my present creditors have; whereby " I should be relieved from my distress, " and you, at the same time, a gainer " of the difference between the interest " pay'd on mortgage, and from the pub-" lick funds; if you would not, by a " further instance of kindness, let that " difference accumulate toward the dif-"charge of the debt. This was what " I meant

"I meant to have proposed, had you "permitted me to explain myself; and "what I flatter myself neither you, nor my fifter will think so very unreason— "able, when considered coolly."—

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Of all methods of begging, this, under the colour of borrowing, is the most impudent, because it accepts the benefit, without owning the obligation; though such is the absurdity of the human heart, that it is the most effectual also; prudence, or avarice, or whatever it is to be called, not taking the alarm, because of the promise of re-payment; though of the performance of that promise, there is not the least shadow of probability. This our hero well knew; and therefore, made his application in that form. But, for once his address was foiled.

"I do not pretend to much know"ledge—(the replied, in formewhat a
more placid ftrain)—"but this I know,
"that in certain circumstances, lending
"and giving are much the same, if in"deed,

"deed, the latter is not to be preferred,
"as then there is an end of the matter
"at once; whereas lending feldom brings
"any other return than ingratitude and
"vexation. And for this reason, I am
"firmly resolved to follow the advice of
"my dear husband; and never lend to a
"friend or relation, as long as I live."—

"But then, madam—(interposed her daughter, whom his conduct to her lover had effectually engaged in her interest)—" as my papa did not advise "also against giving, and you think that "the better way, I hope you will not "refuse my brother your assistance at this "time; or at least, if you should, that "you will not forbid my doing what lit"tle is in my power, to extricate him from his difficulties."—

In short, she supported his fuit so powerfully, that his mother at length consented to give him five thousand pounds more, which, she say'd, was the last he must expect from her; refusing perempto-

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peremptorily to fee the amount of his debts, on his alledging that this fum was infufficient, or concern herfelf any way in his affairs; not even fo far as to second the invitation which her daughter gave him, to go and live with them in America, till his fortune should recover itself; so incurable a surfeit of his company, had the slings of his wit given her

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THIS weighty affair being brought to a conclusion, and the ferment raised by it pretty well subsided, Mrs. Cowskin told her son that she had a visit to pay, in which she should be glad of his company; and would call upon him next morning for that purpose.

That he readily promised to attend her, the reader may well suppose; but not how much he was surprized at her coming in such a garb as would have disguised her her from him, had he met her accidentally in the street. The look he gave her, made her laugh. "You stare at my "dress—(say'd she)—but I have a rea"fon for it. You may put on a surtout, "as it rains a little; and then we shall "be fit to go together, for I mean to "walk."—

Fond as he was of a frolick, he would have preferred it in other company. However, he equipped himself as she desired; and taking a stick in his hand, out they sallied, arm in arm, like a couple of snug citizens going to market.

She led him along in this manner, bursting with curiosity to know where their walk was to end, till she came into the polite parish of St. Giles; where looking round for some time, she at length stopped at the descent into a cellar, the greasy steam issuing from which, proved it to be one of those economical ordinaries, where a keen appetite makes sheep's-head, or shin of beef go down Vol. III.

more favourily than venison or turtle, without that sauce.

Having considered the place for some minutes in great emotion, as if to be certain that she was right, she took her squire by the hand, as he stood stupissed with astonishment, and without more ado, led him down into the cavern; where she no sooner seated herself, than she burst into a slood of tears.

Luckily this circumstance disarmed the wrath of the good landlady, who imagining from their appearance, which, much as they were disguised, was still far above that of her usual guests, as being whole and clean, that they were come only out of fun, to pry into the ways of poor people, was just going to wash their faces with a ladle-full of her soup, to satisfy their curiosity. Softening her look, therefore, she asked mistress, as civilly as she knew how, what she ailed; and whether she wanted any thing with her.

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Mrs. Cowskin, who was by this time come to herself, and had not so far forgotten the ceremonies of the place, as to have been much surprized, had she received the intended salute, answered, that she was only taken a little sick as she passed by, and reaching her a shilling, desired a drop of her gin to settle her stomach; having just tasted which, and offered it to her attendant, desiring him in a whisper, to observe well the place where they were, she took leave of her greasy hostess, and ascended into the regions of day.

Though our hero's education upon the town had been too extensive for him not to have visited such a place before, where, in fact, he had more than once wrangled for the basket-hilted knife with Quin, and eaten many a farthing sausage with Foote; there was something so unaccountable in his mother's taking him there, as utterly drowned his relish for the joke, in astonishment; and left him not power to L 2 speak

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Speak a word as he 'squired her back to his own house.

As foon as they were feated, "Well, "cousin Juniper—(say'd she, fixing her eyes earnestly upon him)—What do "you think of the place we have been in?"—

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"Why, really, madam—(he answered with as much composure as he could command)—"The place, I suppose, is "like all other places of the kind." What I wonder at is, how it could "come into your head to go there."—

"And yet, Jack! — (she returned, with a farcastick smile)—" in that very "place did you first breathe the air of "this world."—

Then observing that he started, and turned pale with horrour at what she say'd—"The steps—(she continued)—"by which you have ascended from that dungeon, to this state of splendour, are too wonderful, not to have been de"figned"

" signed for some remarkable end. Take

" care then, that your own folly does not

" bring you back to your original wretch-

" edness! that your fall is not as great,

" as has been your rife!"-

To such a lecture it was impossible not to pay attention, at least for the moment. He hung down his head abashed; nor could he look her in the face without pain and confusion, during the remainder of her stay.

CHAP. VI.

OUR hero's meeting with his mother and fifter had been so unexpected, and the circumstances attending it, so much out of the common road of life, that at their departure, the whole seemed a dream; on his awaking from which his sensations were far from being agreeable. He looked upon himself some how as left alone in the world; and felt an heavi-

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ness upon his heart, that often forced an involuntary sigh.

This, however, must not be thought an inconsistency, a descent from the heroism of his character; as if he had so far forgotten himself, as to give way to gratitude or natural affection. These were weaknesses to which the greatness of his mind was far superiour. On the contrary, the disappointment of his last expectation cancelled every sense of former benefits; and the insult of upbraiding him with the place and circumstances of his birth, turned the indifference he had felt for his mother before, into the most rancourous hatred.

His concern arose from regard to him-self; the principle which universally rules the sentiments of the great. He had looked upon the fortunes of his mother and sister, as a sure resource against a cloudy day; in consequence of which he had despised the frowns of approaching ruin. The loss, therefore, of that soundation

dation of his hope, shook his fortitude; and made him shrink into himself. For, as to all his other connections, they were formed upon too fashionable principles to out-live the gratification of the passion which gave them birth; or admit a thought of further advantage, when that end should be served.

As fomething, however, must be done, before a discovery of his fituation should make it impossible for him to do any thing, he fettled with some in a manner that might have pay'd at once all the debts of a person of less dexterity and refolution; and then with the money he had got from his mother, pay'd fuch other of his legal debts as could not be put off; while with his debts of bonour, he for the present took the same liberty which he had long taken with his honour itself, and put them to the backfide of his book; and making fuch a disposition for the payment of the others, as filenced at least, if it did not fatisfy, his creditors, he refolved without

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out delay to try his fortune in the second scheme he had formed for the re-establishment of his affairs on the death of his father Juniper; which, as the attentive reader will recollect, was turning his hand to politicks; and applying himself to minding the affairs of the publick, now that he had none of his own to mind.

For this purpose, as he knew the ladder of ambition must be fixed in the dirt, to prevent its slipping, he immediately made it his business to mix with the people, in that ftyle of familiarity which never fails to conciliate their favour, by freeing them for the time from the irkfome distinctions and distance of rank: And as he knew also, that the human heart is most sensible of impression, when warmed by the focial cup, he lifted himfelf a member of all the clubs, formed for the patriotick purpoles of promoting the interest of their country, by the confumption of its own produce, and those of its colonies, beer, punch, and tobacco; and watching over the constitution, by abusing abuling the ministers and measures of government, in the true spirit of English liberty; a spirit, by the judicious direction of which he had seen men climb up to consequence, without any other qualification or merit whatsoever.

There cannot be conceived an inftance in which the inconfiftency of the human heart appears more glaring, than that a man, whose life was one continued. infult to honour, honesty, and truth; who gloried in the groffest violations of every moral virtue, and founded his pretentions to wit, on turning religion into ridicule, should gain such credit with the people, as to become of consequence in the state. Yet so it was; so easily is man persuaded of the truth of what he wishes to be true. that the very persons who would not trust to his probity for the payment of a penny; who, if he fay'd the fun shone at noon, would not believe without feeing it, merely because he say'd so, not only gave implicit credit to his calumnies (though unsupported by the appearance of probability,

lity, though inconfistent with each other, and often, contrary to their own knowledge;) but gave their money also with a liberality (not often shown in a better cause,) to support him in the propagation of them; because they tended to bring down to their own level those, whom they could never hope to rise to a level with.

It must be acknowledged though, in justice to the times in which we live, that this inconsistency is not peculiar to them. It is in nature. It has its root in that malignant envy which drives out every other affection of the soul, where it once gains a footing.—

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CHAP. VII.

JOR did his credit appear to be confined to those who knew no better. Many, whose superiour actions raised them above the reach of fuch gross impolition, were not ashamed to cares a man, whom they equally despised and detested; and to give the fanction of their acceptance to flanders which they knew to be groundless, because they knew also, that when those slanders should have worked their effect, they could turn that effect to their own use, and appear justified in leaving the author of them to fink by his own weight, into his original obfcurity.

The flame thus raised, swept all before it like a whirlwind. The necessary restrictions of law were held to be usurpations of tyranny; and its forms wrested from their true intent, to serve a cause that evidently led to anarchy. Private virtue, even in the highest stations, was treated with contempt, as inconfiftent

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with publick abilities; and that respect, which is the indispensable support of all government, transpled under foot; while the incendiary who held the torch, gloried in the effects of that flame, as the proofs of his power.

This was a sphere, in which he seemed designed by nature to cut a capital sigure. None of his new associates having equal means of information, his abuse of men consequently was more pointed than their's could be; as his censure of measures was always directed against those which he knew they could not comprehend; and therefore he could represent in what colours he pleased.

But though his advances to popularity exceeded his most sanguine expectations, he found rubs in his way which staggered his resolution. The most effectual method of gaining the favour of the populace, is to supply their wants. Sensible of this, he had never let the spirit of an honest fellow be cooled by the want of a shirt,

or a shilling to pay his club. But these calls, though trisling when considered singly, soon doubled so fast upon him, as to demand his most serious consideration. A pot of beer, 'twas true, cost not much; but an hogshead at a time told high, where the expence fell all upon one; and without that expence nothing was to be done. In short, sanguine as was his temper, he could not avoid seeing that the advantage he proposed by his present scheme was much less certain than the ruin, which, instead of averting, it was hastening upon him.

Nor was this the only obstacle he had to struggle with. With all his qualifications for greatness, he unfortunately wanted one, without which, it is impossible to be great. Little as the reader may suspect such a thing, he had a virtue too much: He was not hypocrite enough to be a politician; nor could ever make an harangue upon publick virtue, or an invective against private vice, without a grin on his face, at the folly of those who could

230 LIFE AND ADVENTURES
could listen to words, to which every
action of his life gave the lie.

But this very propensity to turn every thing to ridicule, at the same time that it counteracted his scheme in one sense, by disobliging his friends, promoted it in another. His foes, that is to say, those to whom he professed himself a foe, had so often smarted under its lash, that they resolved to throw a sop to Gerberus, to stop his barking.

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Though this fell far short in every sense, of what his ambition had aimed at on his first setting out, he prudently considered that the thing was in effect the same. It was only doing it in a less fashionable way; and done it must be in one way or another, or he might possibly verify his mother's prediction, and go out of the world in as low a state as he had come into it.

The sequel scarcely need be told. He would at first have denied the fact, and afterwards affected to laugh reproach out

out of countenance; but all was in vain. He met nothing but contempt and infult, not always free from danger, wherever he showed his face; till unable to stand the brunt any longer, he retired into a remote part of the country, where he was not known, in hope of being suffered to chew his crust in quiet, till the means by which he had earned it should be forgotten; leaving the ruins of his fortune to be scrambled for by his creditors, whom he found it impossible to parry any longer.

CHAP. VIII.

THE situation of our hero on his arrival at the place of his retreat, in an obscure corner of Wales, is not easy to be conceived. Though scarcely turned the meridian of life, so active had been his industry in filling every moment of his time, that were his age to be computed by his exploits, sew men had lived so long. To sink at once, therefore, from such a state, to that of mere vegetation!

to have nothing to do, but to eat, drink, and sleep; nor any thing in prospect, but a repetition of the same dull round, was enough to sicken a more stoical heart than his.

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In all his former difficulties he had a certain point in view to attract his attention; an hope to actuate his thoughts, and keep them from recoiling back upon his heart. But that hope was now loft. The shadow had begun to lengthen in the vale. He could not look back without repining; not at his follies; for severely as he felt their effects, so inexplicably were they blended with his every idea of happiness, that all his regret arose from his not being able to continue them.—He could not throw his eye forward without horrour.

What such a state of mind led to, he was well aware. But he was of the opinion, * that Being, however unhappy, is better than not to be; and, as he could not

[·] Belial's in Milton.

not flatter himself with hope of mending his condition in another life, even should there be such, of which, by the bye, his philosophy entertained a comfortable doubt; he thought it the wisest way to stay as long as he could in this.

Sensible, however, that apprehension always magnifies the evil, he resolved to reconcile himself to a state which he had it not in his power to change. As soon, therefore, as he had established his ecconomy, he endeavoured to mix with the upper class of his neighbours, and try the effects of a society, which would have the recommendation of novelty, at least, the distance of a couple of hundred miles making as great a difference-in the manners of the people, as if they were of a different country.

As he was a perfect connoisseur in all the sports of the field, he thought that could not fail to gain him respect with those sons of Nimred, who seemed born only to hunt; and to be determined to extirpate

extirpate every favage animal, except of their own species, out of their country, as their ancestors had been obliged to do by the wolves.

Cauty 1400 m Missepter and a beautiful But some errors in his setting out defeated his defign. He had unluckily forbidden leeks to be put in his foup; fay'd he preferred Parmefan to goat's-milk cheese; and even expressed a doubt of Penmenmaur's being mount Ararat, upon which Noak's ark had rested, after the flood; and consequently of the world's being peopled from Wales; though doctor Fluellyn, a member of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies, had shewn that it answered all the descriptions given of that mountain, having trees on its fides, and a river at its foot; offences too heinous to be brooked by the spirit of an ancient Briton. Ms ic was a perfect con

He was obliged, therefore, either to fit alone, which the intrusion of thought made insupportable; or to muddle himfelf with a pipe of tobacco and a mug-

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of fat ale, in the worshipful society of the lawyer, the apothecary, and the exciseman, the standing set of every country town.

Fortune, however, had not defigned to drop him in such a dirty hole at last, after all the pains she had taken with him. As he was sitting one evening in the kitchen of the publick house, waiting the arrival of his companions, a stranger richly dressed, and attended by two servants in gaudy liveries, alighted at the door; and walking into the kitchen to settle matters with the cook, ordered some cow-heel and onions en ragoust, a fricase of tripe, and a piece of roast beef for his supper, saying, people must not be nice, nor require many things upon a road.

A guest of such an appearance, in such a place, naturally raised curiosity, especially in our hero, whom for the suture we must call Captain Jones, the name and title he had assumed on his coming into that

that country, having no more ambition than his brother captain Bobadil, to be so popular as the knowledge of his own name must make him; who, from a bit of red ribbon, drawn between two of his button-holes; and his language, a jargon made up of bad French, and worse English, the latter pronounced with an emphatical broque, instantly knew what he was. But what could have brought him there, where a bird of his feather had never before been known to drop in his passage, was the question.

He had not puzzled long upon the point though, when the stranger entered the kitchen again; and advancing to him with a most prosound bow,—" Under"standing, sir — (say'd he)—from the "host, that you are a man of honour, I "make bould to pray the favour of your company to supper. Where I am "alone, I always love the best society; "it being natural, you know, for gal"lant men to like to be together."

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Such an invitation was too fingular to be refused by the captain; who, beside the gratification of his curiosity, had not yet lost his passion for that kind of enter-tainment, which such a character seemed to promise. He accepted it, therefore, in the highest strain of French politesse; and so perfectly regulated his conduct by the same principle, during the whole evening, as entirely won the stranger's heart.

It was a maxim with Jones, drawn from his knowledge of the human heart, never to show curiofity concerning any thing he was particularly defirous of knowing; as it only puts people on their guard. Instead, therefore, of asking any questions, he took occasion to declare his disapprobation of that blind policy, which drove the bravest part of the subjects of the state into the service of its enemies, for differences in opinion, which concerned only the parties themselves; and at the same time made the chevalier a most cordial offer of every service in his power.

The

"friend!—(returned the chevalier, whose heart was now completely opened by a flowing bowl of punch)—"I except your kind offer, with many thanks. It is the very thing I want; and I verily believe it was my good genus that directed me to crave the honour of your acquaintance. The affair I have occasion for your service in, is one of those, in which it is the duty of every man of honour to serve another; but before I enter into the merits of the cause, it is fit you should know who it is that axes for your friendship.

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c H.A.P. JX.

- "I Need not tell you my country. We always carry that written upon our tongues. My name is O'Rooke.—
- "What !—(interrupted Jones, in the inadvertent impulse of surprize, at hearing the name of his mother)—"O'Rooke, "did you say?—

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- "Yes, my dear honey!—(answered the chevalier)—that I did; and I am not ashamed to say so. Perhaps you may have heard of that name.—It is not unknown in some of the sirst courts of Europe; no more than it was formerly in our own country, where the English invaders found to their cost, who we were.
- "The world having frowned upon us, I went into the army when I was very young, that being the only profession, you

you know, that is not beneath a gentleman; but I had not been long there, before I found so many discouragements in the way of merit, no man having a chance for preferment in the English service, without paying for it, that I resolved to quit; for which purpose, as I could not get my discharge by fair means, I was determined to do something that might make them dismiss me.

"Having carried this scheme into execution, though the manner was not quite to my liking, I came to London, where, quitting the service of Mars, I enlisted under the banner of Venus, and lay'd myself out to gain the favour of the fair sex; in which I succeeded so well, that I was upon the point of marrying a great fortune, when a cowardly fellow, to whom I sent a challenge, as you know every man of honour ought to do, for having the assurance to court the same lady I did, took the law of me; by which means I lost my mistress, and was forced to go over to France, where the king gave

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as he heard my name.

But my bad fortune followed me there too. Some low-lived fcoundrels, envying my being preferred before themfelves, represented the manner of my quitting the English service, so much to my disadvantage, that the whole corps, apprehending I should be raised over all their heads in time, made a pretence of it to refuse ranking with me, though I told them what I had done, was only on purpose to get my discharge; as they gave the same reason also to hide their fear, when I offered to fight them all, one after another; whereupon, France having no war at that time, I did not think it worth my while to remain in the fervice, but went directly to Ruffia, where, Venus once more standing my friend, I had the look to distinguish myself so well in the empres's service, that I was made a colonel, and was in a fair way to be a general foon, when a young Swede supplanted me Vol. III.

in my mistres's favour, and was promoted over my head; at which I was so highly affronted, that a war having broke out just then, between France and this country, I desired my congé, holding myself bound in honour to return to the service where I had my first preferment, now there was occasion for me.

"Such an attachment did not pass unnoticed by the king of France, who gave me the same rank I had had in Russia, and a liberal pension of three thousand livres a year to support it; though the envy of my countrymen still pursued me so far, that I was not given an opportunity of signalizing myself in the field, or I should have been a marshal of France before now.

"Rather than be idle, therefore, I applied myself once more to the ladies; but their service in that country is but a poor resource. The young are so pinched in their allowance, that they expect to be pay'd for their favours, in the way of presents;

presents; and the old are so restrained in their generosity, by the law, that even what they give is taken away; as I found to my loss, being obliged to resund to a man of quality, too high for me to contend with, all I had dearly earned in several years, from an old aunt of his, with whom I had lived in the character of master of ber affairs.

This was an hard stroke, you will fay, when I was almost worn out in the fervice. However, as nothing is to be got by grief, I resolved to try the fortune of one campaign more in this country; and with that intent took the field at Rath. as the most advantageous ground for such operations; where I renewed my acquaintance with a widow lady about my own age, whom I had feen abroad; and whole hulband had left her fortune enough to induce me to supply his place, which I accordingly offered to do, after I had made my advances regularly in the flege for the whole featon, at a great expence of : amoon. M 2

of ammunition; when, to my utter furprize, instead of capitulating, as I expected, the only laughed in my face, and fay'd, fhe never intended to change her condition, as the would have told me the first day, if she had suspected my defign; though what else could she think I defigned by following fuch an old harridan; on my faying which, and expostulating with her on the dishonesty of jilting me, for it could be called nothing better, out of fo much money as I had spent in following her, the fairly ordered her fervants to thew me the door what I disting of you

of configuration smoother than the comme " But I shall not submit to such indignity without feeking fatisfaction; though as a woman, the may think herself safe from my resentment: And this is my errand into this country, whither the came the next day, to a fine old castle she has within a league of this town, to avoid the talk, that the rightly judged would be made of what had happened, as I told her behaviour publickly in the

rooms;

froms; as it is also the affair in which I shall be obliged to you for your friends thip and affistance.

mode that P. X. I all the

relation of any own got the principle Si-

to seems I made not call learn inclus HE conclusion of this curious history crowned the pleasure it had given our here, by the opportunity it promised for playing off fome of his old tricks upon his new friend; to whose opinion of the obligation of honour in fuch cases, he did not pay fuch implicit regard; any more than he thought himself obliged to thew him favour on account of the kindred which he fuspected to be between them. Not to preclude himself, however, from taking whatever part he might think proper, as foon as the chevalier had ended, he repeated the offer of his affiftance, which was all he could do, till his friend should do him the honour to let him know the plan upon which he meant to proceedswolfd switte to good sea altitude

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That is very true, my dear foul! (replied the chevalier)—I forgot that! The plan I have formed, is the fame by which Paris got Helen of old; and a relation of my own got the princes Sobieski for the late prince Stuart, whom it seems I must not call king in this country; I mean by running away with her, which I can easily do, as I have a friend in the garrison, her fille de chambre, who was an old acquaintance of mine in France, and gives me intelligence of all her motions.

"And in what manner do you wish me to assist you?"—(say'd his friend.)

"Only by informing me the shortest way to the next sea-port town, where I may get a passage to France (answered the chevalier)—as it would betray me if I should enquire myself; for which reason I shall give out my route the contrary way. Not that I fear pursuit on my own account, the two men you see with me being as brave fellows as any

- in the brigade; aye, and as good gen-
- " tlemen too, though they have conde-
- " sended to wear a livery; but that is
- " no more than we all do, to ferve one
- another on occasion. I approprie
- " And the lady's name is ---- ? (returned Jones.)-
- " Williams, at your service (answered the chevalier.)-
- " But to suppose that you succeed in
- " carrying her off! (continued Jones)-
- " How are you fure of getting her con-
- " fent to marry you? -and without that
- you cannot get at her fortune."
- " How will I get her consent? -(fay'd the chevalier)-" The easiest way
- " in the world: By force, to be fure.
- "When a man has a woman in his power,
- " what should hinder him from making
- " her confent to do whatever he pleases?"
- " But do you hold it consistent with your honour (fay'd Jones) to use force

" to a lady?"-

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"Why not, my dear? (answered the chevalier? - " What is it that makes a " thing honourable, but its being prac-" tifed by men of honour? Now, befide " the examples I gave before, did not the " Romans lay the foundation of their em-" pire on the rape of the Sabine ladies? " And is it not, this very day, the custom " in my country, where no man makes " any scruple of running away with a woman, if he cannot get her other-" wife. No! no! Far from not being " confistent with honour, it is the most " honourable way a man can get a wife; " and was practifed as fuch by all the " heroes of old times, from whom we " have taken it."-

It was impossible to avoid affenting to arguments supported by such illustrious examples. Jones was convinced; and filling a bumper, "Here's to your "success, my dear friend (say'd he) "which I will do all in my power to promote. Your name, I think you say'd, is Rooke?

O'Rooke,

" O'Rooke, if you please, my dear !-(answered the chevalier.) "The O' with us, is a title of antiquity, which we " hold more honourable than any of your " modern ones of Duke or Lord."

My reason for asking (say'd Jones) stis, that I once had the honour of knowsing a lady of fortune of that name, " who, as I imagine, from fome circumstances I have heard her tell of her fa-"mily, must be a relation of your's." Nothing more likely, my dear !--(answered the chevalier)-" Our family is numerous. I had three shifters my ce felf; one of whom, poor Nanny, came " to London to feek her fortune; and, as "I was told, went to America, where " possibly she may have found it, though " I never heard any thing of her fince."-

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IT is impossible to describe what our hero selt, when he came to resect upon this strange rencounter with his uncle; for such he could not doubt the chevalier to be. To that weakness of vulgar minds, called natural affection, he was constitutionally superiour; or, if he might have selt any touches of it, the unpardonable injury his mother had done him, by refusing his last request, had made him regard all related to her, one only excepted, with the bitterest hatred.

Not to let that hatred, however, interfere with his interest, the ruling principle of all great men, he resolved to see the lady the next morning, to form a judgement, whether it might be more to his advantage to assist, or deseat his uncle's design.

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Having breakfasted therefore, with the chevalier, according to appointment, and repeated all his professions of friendship with the most solemn affurances, he took a ride alone toward the lady's castle, having reconneitered all the avenues to which, he chose a proper place, where no one could fee him, to roll himself in the mire, as if he had had a fall from his horse; and leaving him at large, limped up to her door, where he told the accident that had happened to him, requesting that a servant might be fent to catch his horse, and take him to the town for a chaife, as he was not able to ride.

Such a mischance happening to a perfon of his appearance, for he had taken care to dress himself in such a manner as should bespeak respect, naturally brought the lady to receive him. But what an . interview!

After staring at each other for a few moments-" Can I believe my eyes!"-(fay'd she) - " Is it possible!"-(fay'd he)

he)—At which words, ejaculated in the fame instant by them both, he ran to embrace her; while she fainted, or seemed to faint away in his arms.

The help, usual on such occasions, having brought her to herself; and a moment's reflection restored his presence of mind, she made a motion with her hand to her attendants to withdraw; and then fixing her eyes upon him, with a look, that in the instant gave him his cue, "Good Heaven, Jack! (say'd she) "what can have brought you here, to "recal to my rememberance scenes too "horridly pleasing? — And why the "name of Jones, by which you were "announced?"—

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"What could have brought me? (he answered, embracing her passionately)—"but to see my dearest Hermione; and "remove an errour that has so long in"terrupted the happiness of our lives."—

The name of Hermione has undoubtedy recalled to the reader's memory who the

the lady was. Such scenes as this always fuffer by description. After a tender half hour frent on her fide in gentle upbraidings of his unkind filence, and neglect of her fufferings under the accumulated diffres in which he left her at York, as related at large in a foregoing page of this accurate and important history; and in his exculpating himself with the most folemn oaths, and charging the whole upon Betty; who, he fay'd, must have omitted to write, in order to fink the money he had given her to remit; not having spirit to write himself, from the horrour with which he was flruck, by the supposed criminality of their connection; he entrusted her with the mystery of his birth, only taking care to conceal all those circumstances which might lower him in her eyes; faying, he was the fruit of an indifcreet marriage between two young persons of better families than fortunes; who being obliged to conceal their connection, and for that reason unable to pay the necessary attention to him, while

at his nurse's, she had, from mercenary motives, exchanged him for the son of Mr. Juniper, who had been killed by accident; in which particular circumstance, and the manner of his being discovered by his mother, he condescended to tell the truth, not having a siction ready that suited his purpose so well.—And, as a proof of the truth of what he say'd, proposed re-continuing their former intercourse.

But easy as it was to persuade her of what she so much wished, she rejected that proposal in the most heroick manner. "No, Jack! (say'd she) that shall never be. My sentiments are as much changed as my situation, since I saw you. Never will I again quit those paths of virtue, to which Heaven took such signal pains to lead me back."—

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Jones, who was never so keen in any pursuit, as to make him overshoot his way, directly saw this was not the time to press press that matter; and therefore acquiefcing silently, with a deep sigh, turned the conversation to the topick which he judged most agreeable to her; delicately hinting a desire to know her history since their parting.

He judged right. She readily affented to his defire; and forgetting the hurt he had received by his fall, as much as he did himself, now that he had no further occasion for it, she led him to an arbour in the bottom of her garden, which commanding the view all around, made her safe from being overheard; and there satisfied his curiosity as follows.

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CHAP. XII.

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T Will not put you to the pain of hearing, nor myfelf of relating, what I suffered after you left York, particularly at your neglect; as the fettlement of your other affairs shewed me that it proceeded not from necessity. The effect it had upon me was such, that I lost my spirits and health; and had actually received warning from the manager, when Heaven sent to my relief a gentleman, whom I had formerly known; and who remembered, through my present wretchedness, what I had been in better days.

" His mind was in that state which disposes to a fellow-feeling for others. life of fashionable distipation had shattered both his health and fortune to fuch a degree, that he waited in a state of hopeless insensibility for the ruin that hung

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OF JUNIPER-JACK. 257 over him, without taking any pains to avert it.

"I foon faw that the fickness of his body proceeded chiefly from his mind; and having by an attention unfeignedly tender to all his ailments, acquired his confidence, prevailed upon him in an happy moment to avoid the stroke, it was then too late for him to attempt averting, by leaving England.

"The event exceeded my most sanguine hopes. The harpies, when disappointed thus of their prey, came into such terms, that he was able to pay all his just debts, and save a genteel competence for himself, out of a fortune which would not have answered half their demands, had they had him in their power to tear it to pieces.

"Such an effential service made so deep an impression on his grateful heart, that he thought he could not do less than make me mistress of the fortune I had been

been the means of faving, by marriage; an act of generofity, which my gratitude made it the care of my life to prevent his having any cause to repent.

"As he knew though, that such a step is always censured by the unseeling world, without regard to the motives which lead to it, he resolved to stay abroad till the wonder should wear off. We visited therefore, most of the courts of Europe, and were preparing to trace the finer arts to their source among the ruins of ancient Greece, when a violent sever, with which he was seized at Naples, put a stop to our travels; for though he out-lived the immediate shock, his constitution, too delicate before, was totally broken by it."

"I would have persuaded him to try for relief from the softer air of the South; but that inexpressible languishing for home, which makes the Icelander and Hottentot prefer train-oil and garbage, among eternal snows and burning sands, to all the delicacies and temperature of Europe, determined

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termined him to return, where he lingered in death, rather than lived, for five years; when he died, and left me that fortune, which, as he kindly expressed it in his will, I had not only saved for him, but also saved his life to enjoy so long.

"In the tour we had made, we visited not only every court, but also every place made curious by the remains of ancient magnificence in all the southern parts of Europe, of which I took memorandums, merely at the request, and for the amusement of my husband; which his partial fondness would have had me publish, persuaded that the world would find as much merit in them, as he did.

"But though sweet the incense offered to the mind, I suffered not myself to be intoxicated by it. Interesting as are the incidents which happen to ourselves, and curious the remarks we make, in our own eyes, I knew that sew, even among men whose education has respect to these matters, are qualified to strike out any thing new, new, on subjects so often canvassed. In our sex, the attempt only exposes us to deserved ridicule, confirming, by so starge and a proof, the charge of vanity; which after all, is perhaps, too indiscriminately say'd to rule the semale heart: though, had it been otherwise, I would have declined any honour that could have set me in a superiour light to him.

" And now, Jack, the fortune which Heaven has thus unexpectedly given, you are welcome to share with me, as a brother; a relation, which no one will doubt here, as you have happened to assume my real name. Any other connection I here abjure for ever; the very recollection of what I fuffered, however groundlefsly, as it seems, from the thought of it before, striking my foul with horrour. You have cut too conspicuous a figure in life to have any thing relating to you a fecret. I know your fortune is ruined. Mine, though not great, is sufficient to set the fear of want at defiance, if managed prudently; and that shall be my care."

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It may naturally be thought that fuch an offer was not unacceptable to our hero, who had too good an opinion of himself still, to fear miscarrying in the generous defign he had formed of eafing her of that care. - " I accept, with pleasure, " your proposal of living with you (he answered therefore) - " for with whom " else can I ever hope to live happily; "that is, if you are let to remain here, " with power to entertain me."

Why! who can pretend to hinder " me? (fhe answered in surprize) or dispute my power to act as I co please Pour mod in shares triplent shi .

"What should you say to a visit from " your Hibernian suitor at Bath?"-(he replied, with a fignificant smile.)-

" How !-- (fay'd she)-Do you know " that hero?" - I we all you will be me

"Yes (he returned)—and know also " that he came to our town last night " on purpose to run away with you, in

" the Milesian style of courtship; for " which he has made all necessary prepaer rations, as he told me himself in con-" fidence." - Having thus raised her anxious curiolity to the proper pitch, he opened to her the chevalier's plan, dreffed out in the colours most likely to affect her; and concluded with faying, that his reason for coming into that country, was to be near her, on his accidentally having discovered the place of her residence; though he had not made himself known to her before, for fear of her attributing his attachment to interested motives, on his present reverse of fortune; and was actually confidering how to introduce himfelf to her, when this affair shewed him he had no time to lofe.

"But hark you, my old friend!—
(she replied with a smile)—"This story,
"to be sure, tells well, provided you
"can reconcile it with your having come
"in consequence of a fall from your
"horse.—And a propos, how is your
back?

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" back?—I beg pardon for not having "let the Opedeldock be applied."—

"O very well!—(he answered, laughing)—" it is very well. The sight of "you cured me in the instant. The "truth is, I made use of that pre-"tence, to try if you would remember me."—

"O Jack! Jack! — (she returned, shaking her head)—" Will you never "leave off your tricks?—And so, I sup-" pose, the story of the chevalier was in-" vented also, to divert yourself, by "alarming my fears."—

"That is too much!—(fay'd he, with a grave look)—" because I jest some"times, to think that I can never be serious. But send for your fille de chambre, and you shall soon know whether the story is an invention of mine, or not."—

This was a proof too easy, as well as too decisive to be neglected. Mammoiselle

was accordingly summoned, who finding that some part of her guilt was discovered, resolved to earn forgiveness by a candid confession of the whole; by which it appeared, that at the chevalier's instigation, which she shewed under his hand, she was not only to have affished in carrying off her mistress, by opening the house door to him at midnight, but to have accompanied him in his slight, and carried off all her cash and jewels also to support them, till she should consent to a marriage, and so give him possession of her fortune.

c That is too much — The day, with a grave look)— hecause I get to tee ounes, to child that I can never be factored. The factor out wile electrometer and won that I can hever be remarked and won that I can have leave the thory is an invention of name, of new the transport of the state of th

" aliming my fearath"

This was a proof too call, its well as too securive to be recleated. Mammoifelle

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CHAP. XIII.

A S this put the matter out of doubt, the only thing that remained was how to defeat the chevalier's scheme, which Jones had for obvious reasons represented in a most formidable light. But this he took wholly upon himself, only defiring that the would call him brother, before her fervants, to authorize his exerting himfelf in her behalf.

Accordingly, having accepted her invitation to flay at her house that night, he repaired to the chevalier's quarters the next morning, before he was out of bed, it being a maxim with him always to meet any man with whom he apprehended a dispute, before he should raise his spirits with a cup of courage; and giving him a loving shake by the hand, " I am come, " my dear friend (fay'd he) to retract the of promise of assistance in your present " scheme, Vol. III. N

" scheme, which I gave you yesterday

" morning; and to defire that you will

"drop it entirely, as I am unluckily

" obliged to oppose you."

"How so?—(answered the chevalier, starting out of bed)—For what reason "should you oppose me?"—

"Only, because the lady happens to be my sister" (replied Jones.)—

"Well!—and what then?—(returned the chevalier)—Upon my own foul,

" I was afraid it was fomething elfe.

"But fince it is only that, all is very

" well; because I can have no doubt,

" but through your interest I shall get

"her without that trouble; as I am

" fure you can have no objection to the

" match."-

"Not upon my own account, most

" certainly — (replied Jones) — on the

" contrary, I should be very proud of the

" honour. But as I find her utterly

" averse to it, and that she insists she

" never

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" ment, I also must insist that you give

" up all thoughts of her, or I shall be

" under a necessity of taking measures

" that may not be very agreeable."-

"Well, fir!—(retorted the chevalier, fiercely)—and what then? You may do as you pleafe. I have a fword that

" fears no opposition, and will be a match

" for your measures, my dear."

"I am far from doubting the courage of your sword, my dear friend!—
(fay'd Jones)—But there are certain matters which are not subject to that decision in this country. We have laws."—

"Aye! There it is now (returned the chevalier) — whenever an Englishman is "put to the point of honour, he flies "directly to the law. But what have the "laws to say to me!—I have done no-

" thing against them."-

"Are you fure of that?—(faid Jones)
"Do you call it nothing to conspire with
N " a ser-

" a servant to rob her mistress, and help

" to run away with her; which your let-

ters to your accomplice, the fille de

" chambre, prove you have done?"-

"The devil accomplish her for me!—
(replied the chevalier, who from former experience, had no desire to fall again into the hands of the law)—And what "will I do then?—I have not money enough to pay my bill here; much less to carry me home, if you will not fand my friend. After all your professions, you will not refuse me that

" much, furely."-

The generolity of our hero's temper has been observed upon many occasions. There were few men to whom he would have refused such a favour. But the very circumstance which would have ensured it with another, had the contrary effect with him. So strong was his hatred of his mother, that he would not do any thing to serve her brother. He answered, therefore, with a most significant shrug of his shoulders,

shoulders, that he was very forry it was not in his power to assist a person for whom he had so high a respect, being unluckily out of cash at that time; but that so old a soldier could not be at a loss, as he might leave part of his baggage, till it should be convenient to him to clear off his quarters; an expedient, by no means uncommon with military men.

"Very true - (answered the chevalier)—that might be done in some cases. " But the misfortune is, that I have been " obliged to do it already in another " place, and therefore have no baggage with me, but what is on my back; for " it would have been wrong, you know, " to encumber myself with any thing " heavy, when I expected to have two " women and their things to carry from " this; for which reason I made my men " ftuff the cloak-bag with straw, as it " would be indecent to travel without the " appearance of fomething. Perhaps " your shifter would have consideration N 3 es enough

" enough to help me out, after having

" brought me into the scrape. If you

" think she would, I will write her a let-

" ter, and be obliged to you to deliver it

" for me."-

This his friend Jones readily undertook, not with a wish of succeeding, though he promised to back the application with all his interest, but as he imagined it would procure him fun at the chevalier's expence, if only by keeping him to increase his bill at the inn.

His friend, therefore, who could indite as well off hand, as on a week's study, fat down directly, and wrote the following epistle:

My dear Madame,

of I have the honour to hope you would excuse the liberty I take with you on

this occasion, which is, to desire the favour

" that you will lend me a little money to

" bear my charges to France. As you

" know

se know it was on your account I came so

" far out of my way, I flatter myself that

" you will have some consideration for my

" case: If I had not unlookily discovered

" my mind to your brother, I would not

" have been obliged to trouble you.

" I have the honour to be with the most " perfect respect,

" Madame,

"Your most bumble and most obedient servant,

" O'ROOKE."

This curious epiftle Jones readily charged himself with the delivery of, and really did deliver; but instead of backing, as he had promised, turned it into the highest ridicule. For once though this weapon failed him: Mrs. Williams, who had learned compassion in the school of adversity, had no sooner recovered herself from the instinctive laugh, which the oddity of the style and purport of the letter extorted, than she resolved to grant

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her poor lover's request, nor was to be diverted from it by all the arguments and ridicule of her brother; though, for a reason best known to herself, she would not give him the disagreeable office of delivering a benefaction fo contrary to his fentiments; but fent it by her own steward, to be given on condition of his leaving the country directly, and taking his friend the fille de chambre, with him.

Though our hero was not a little chagrined at this disappointment, he refolved to have another stroke at his uncle: the fuccess of which would give him the additional pleafure of affecting his mother, as well as her brother.

Waiting upon him, therefore, at his return, after the most cordial congratulations on the fuccess of his letter, the merit of which he conscientiously took entirely to himself, he advised him, instead of going back to France, to go to America to his fifter Nanny, who would certainly be rejoiced to see him; and was tri

in a fituation to make him easy for the rest of his life.

The chevalier liftened eagerly to his advice, the expediency of which he honestly acknowledged, as his affairs were fearcely more deranged in *England* than in *France*, where he had even mortgaged his pension, to make this unfortunate campaign.

The only objection was, that the voyage was too long for the strength of his purse; but for this his friend easily found a remedy in his own way, which was to sell his horses, the price of which would answer the purpose; or if he should be taken up for the fact before he could get away, for he knew they were only hired, the punishment was only transportation to the place whither he wanted to go, by which means he would make the voyage at the expence of the publick, and might reserve the money to cut a figure with, after his arrival; nor could his sister shew

him any flight for travelling in the fame manner as she had done herself.

The chevalier thanked his friend in the warmest terms for his advice, taking his sister's present name and address for this purpose; but whether he followed it or not, I do not find recorded in the memoirs from which I have compiled this history; though I searched the registers of Newgate and the Old Bailey with particular care.

C H A P. XIV.

Chair, have any man and and an

THIS was the last exertion of our hero's talents, who directly removed his quarters to the castle, with the government of which his sister invested him, during good behaviour. He would fain have had a more permanent tenure; but she was too old a traveller to trust the reins out of her own hand, even to so skilful a driver.

She

She told him, that the same regard which made her adopt him as a brother, would also make her appoint him her heir, if he gave her no cause to change it, till when he must be content with the former character: nor could the ever be prevailed upon to make her will, or at least to let him know she had made it, for what reason is left to the sagacity of the judicious reader.

Whether or no she ever relaxed this feverity in her morals, is a point not agreed among the learned; fome holding the affirmative from the impulse of nature, and the force of custom; to which others. with equal verisimilitude, oppose their common time of life, and the good agreement that always subsisted between them.

Disagreeable as it would have been to another, to live thus on the courtefy of a woman whom he had formerly used fo basely, he knew too much of the world, to let fuch a trifle spoil his ftomach to his bread and butter; wifely confidering that Process C

276 LIFE AND ADVENTURES it would fill his belly as well, if received from favour, as earned by merit.

Though the settlement of the hero generally closes the drama; I must beg leave to say a word or two by way of epilogue, before I let the curtain drop.

I make no doubt but some of those nice-nosed gentry, called criticks, have smelled a fault, in my not having given my hero so exalted an end as his exploits deserved; which I am well aware they will call a violation of poetical justice, in the same style of judgement with those modern refiners in morality, who are offended with Gay, for not hanging Macheath, and so giving his comedy a tragical end.

But a word in their ears: Were every man to meet his deferts in that way, perhaps there would not be so many criticks at leisure to find faults.

In excuse of mine, if it is one, I have only to fay, that I write an history, not a poem;

poem; and therefore hold myfelf obliged to adhere to the fact; an obligation, which, if properly observed by many of my brother historians, would add as much to the merit, as it might take from the bulk of their works.

For the same reason I have rejected the fabulous accounts given by some anonymous dealers in anecdote, of his having turned Methodist, and gone up and down the country finging hymns, so feelingly, as to make all the old women weep their eyes fore; with other stories equally groundless and abfurd, of his fancying himself haunted by ghosts and goblins; his fainting at table on spilling the salt; and being in danger of hanging, for drowning an old woman, in dipping her for a witch, when he was a justice of the peace. The first of these tales took its rise from his suffering himself to be persuaded by his fifter to go with her once or twice to church, where, to prevent her asking him any more, he fung the plalm to the tune

of Old Hewson the cobler, and so put out both clerk and congregation.

As to the affair of the falt, that was of another nature entirely; and had like to have been attended with more ferious confequences. Instead of his fainting on spilling it, it was spilled in the bustle and confusion occasioned by his being like to be choaked in a fit of coughing, when he had crammed his mouth too full; a custom he had retained ever since he was at the boarding-house, where he had often found it necessary to make good use of his time; and which proved fatal to him in the end.

But for dipping the witch, that was all a misrepresentation. He had only ordered her the discipline of the ducking-stool, for scolding the neighbours in the street, and cursing him to his face; so much more dangerous is it for some people to look over the hedge, than for others to be caught stealing.

In

In respect to his domestick conduct. his fifter and he jogged down the hill, without much complaint on either fide. In return for his never attempting to interfere in the management of her fortune. which he foon found the was immoveably determined to keep in her own hands, she gave him the absolute sovereignty of the table, which he took care to have constantly full; having done away his former offences, and become the idol of all the fquires round him, as foon as he was able to entertain them; among whom he cracked his jefts with a full belly, and an heart at ease; laughing at the world, and all its pursuits, particularly politicks, which he never mentioned without cocking his eye, and fhrugging up his shoulders, faying, with the nightman's boy, that " the trade, though rather dirty, was not " a bad one in the main, for those whose " noses were not too nice to follow it er properly."

Another thing it is also proper to remark, which is, that as he preserved the natural

natural turn of his disposition, so did he retain the sirst prejudices of education invariably to the last; having never in his life missed an opportunity of out-jewing a Jew, or abusing a Scotchman, in revenge of the tricks attempted to be play'd upon him by Solomon, his master in the mysterious science of the slight of band, and Doctor Bocardo's having presumed to charge him with a theft he could not prove; which effectually resutes the charge of inconsistency, injuriously imputed to his character, in some other particulars of no moment.

That candour, and regard to truth, indeed, which I have so religiously observed through this important work, oblige me to acknowledge, that in the decline of life he seemed rather to fall from that greatness which marked the actions of a more active season.

He lost his memory so totally, as not only to repeat his stories the next moment after he had told them; but what was still more

OF JUNIPER-JACK.

more furprizing, to believe them himfelf.—He never laughed, but his retentive faculties failed, so as to leave him in an unsavoury pickle; and if left a moment alone in the dark, he would burst out crying like a child, for fear of goblins, ghosts, and devils.

This, however, must not be considered as a disgrace. His reason wore out sooner than his life; and, strange to tell, as Marlborough, Swift, and Newton had died before, so died Juniper Jack.

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